



**Step 1**

Plan the outline of the blocks and the location of door and window openings on a conventional footing or a slab that is level, straight and square. Rebar should extend upward at least 24" (610mm) from the footing into the cavity of the block or as per structural requirement.



**Step 2**

Place the first corner blocks at each corner, then lay the straight blocks toward the center of each wall segment. On the first course, use zip ties on the webs to connect the blocks and pull them snugly together. Following this, install horizontal rebar by placing it in the clips at the top of the internal webs within the block cavity. The clips hold the rebar securely and eliminate the need for wire tying. (Repeat this process for each course of block).



**Step 3**

Install the second course of blocks by reversing the corner blocks, so that the second course of block is offset from the first, in a running bond pattern. At this point check for level across all of the blocks. If the courses are not level, use shims or trim the block as required.



**Step 4**

Install window and door frames (bucks) at each location where an opening is required; cut and fit the ICF blocks around them. Bucks are used to hold back the concrete and stay in place permanently providing a nailing surface for the installation of windows and doors. Pressure-treated lumber or vinyl bucks may be used.



**Step 5**

Install additional courses of block by continuing to overlap the courses so that all joints are locked both above and below by overlapping blocks.



**Step 6**

Install alignment bracing along the entire interior (recommended) of the wall perimeter. This ensures that the walls are straight and plumb and allow alignment adjustment before and during the pour. The bracing also serves the dual purpose of providing a secure and safe framework to support scaffolding planks once five courses have been stacked.



**Step 7**

Stack the block to the full wall height for single story construction, or to just above floor height for multi story construction. Cut the vertical rebar to length and begin installing it from the opening at the top of the wall, through the spaces between the horizontal rebar.



**Step 8**

Pour the concrete into the stacked walls using a boom pump. Do this in layers approximately 3-4' (0.9-1.2m) at a time, circling the structure until the top of the wall is reached. Use a mechanical pencil vibrator (stinger) to vibrate the concrete and remove all air pockets within the wall. Up to one story can be poured each day using this method.



**Step 9**

Screed off the concrete until it is even with the block top and then wet set the anchor bolts into the concrete top. These bolts will be used later to install the top plate (mud sill) for the installation of floor joists, rafters or trusses.



**Step 10**

Remove bracing after the concrete has cured, then proceed with the next stages of construction.

