Wall Stud Cutting and Notching
Bearing and Non-Bearing – 2019 California Building Code (CBC)

2308.5.8 Pipes in walls. Stud partitions containing plumbing, heating, or other pipes shall be framed, and the joists underneath spaced to provide proper clearance for the piping. Where a partition containing piping runs parallel to the floor joists, the joists underneath such partitions shall be doubled and spaced to permit the passage of such pipes and shall be bridged. Where plumbing, heating or other pipes are placed in or partly, in a partition, necessitating the cutting of the soles of the plates, a metal tie not less than 0.058 inch (1.47 mm) (16 galvanized gage) and 1-1/2 inches (38 mm) in width shall be fastened to each plate across and to each side of the opening with not less than six 16d nails.

2308.5.9 Cutting and notching. In exterior walls and bearing partitions, wood studs are permitted to be cut or notched to a depth not exceeding 25 percent of the width of the stud. Cutting or notching of studs to a depth not greater than 40 percent of the width of the stud is permitted in non-bearing partitions supporting no loads other than the weight of the partition.

2308.5.10 Bored holes. A hole not greater in diameter than 40 percent of the stud width are permitted to be bored in any wood stud. Bored holes not greater than 60 percent of the stud width are permitted in non-bearing partitions or in any wall where each bored stud is doubled, provided not more than two such successive doubled studs are so bored.

In no case shall the edge of the bored hole be nearer than 5/8-inch (15.9 mm) to the edge of the stud. Bored holes shall not be located at the same section of stud as a cut or notch.
CUTTING & NOTCHING

25% allowed exterior & bearing walls

40% allowed any nonbearing wall

40% allowed any wall

BORED HOLES

60% allowed any nonbearing wall or bored stud doubled not more than two successive doubled studs