**Advantages**

- Back-up provides temporary enclosure during construction
- Excellent water resistance to wind-driven rain
- Fire rating—1 hour on exterior masonry surface
- Thermal mass consideration for masonry veneer
- Weight of wall

**Disadvantages/Concerns**

- Conduct a condensation analysis
- Check dew point location
- Fiberglass faced gypsum sheathing
  - Adhesion concerns with self-adhering membranes on cold, damp, and/or dusty substrates
  - Minimum temperature required for installation of joint sealant
  - Punch holes may deteriorate
- Higher maintenance cost
- Interior finish has low abuse resistance
- L/600 minimum deflection (BIA recommendation)
  - Allows maximum crack width of .015” in masonry veneer
- L/600-L/900 deflection (suggested range)
  - L/900 will reduce size and frequency of masonry veneer cracks
- Maintenance—inspect periodically (Per BIA 28B revised November 1999)
- Masonry veneer height limited
  - 30 feet at plate
  - 38 feet at gable
- Provide prongs on tie

- No field welding of studs should be permitted
- Poor thermal resistance
- Provide ties incorporating sealing membranes
- Requires seal around all openings where moisture, vapor and air barrier has been penetrated by ties
- Requires special moisture consideration for parapet walls with steel studs
- Shelf angles should be supported by structural steel and not by steel studs
  - Requires a horizontal expansion joint beneath shelf angle
- Shop welding may be permitted with a minimum 14 gauge
  - Galvanizing must be repaired to ASTM standards

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*The figures represent total cost including labor, material, overhead, and profit. All masonry wall costs were based on a straight run wall with no openings. The cost will be greater when considering openings, corners, site conditions, material handling conditions and weather. Use for comparative purposes only and not as an estimate.*