Foundations and Layout Guidelines

Get the footing or slab as level as possible, preferably within ¼”. This will minimize the amount of adjusting you will have to do on the first course of block.

Be sure the dowels are inserted as specified. If the positions of the dowels aren’t on the plans, ask the General Contractor, Engineer, local building official, or refer to the “Reinforcement Schedules” section in the back of this manual. The dowel spacing will match the spacing of the vertical rebar.

Make sure the dowels extend vertically out of the footing enough to meet the rebar overlap requirements (d_b * 40).

Technical Tip:
1. Level footing or slab to ± ¼”. If necessary, slight adjustments can be made by shimming or cutting the forms.
2. “Step Footings” can be accommodated by pouring @ 16” high increments for the standard ECO-Block or 24” high increments for the commercial ECO-Block
Foundation/Footing with dowel locations and 2 ½” track installed
Whether you are working off of a footing or a slab, following a few simple layout guidelines will help maintain straight walls. Some options are:

- Snap chalk lines to mark where the outside and inside of the ECO-Block forms will go.

- Attach a 2 ½” channel to the slab using a powder actuated nailer and place the corresponding side of the ECO-Block forms into the channel. The channel can also be installed while the concrete is wet to allow fasteners to be pushed into the wet concrete.

Technical Tip:
- Although not required, some builders like to use a PVC or metal collar to capture the vertical rebar, when inserted from above.
- Mark the location of your window and door openings on the footing. This will serve as a reminder of where to cut your forms as you build.
Footing with optional PVC/Metal collars