

WHAT'S RIGHT FOR YOUR WALL?

Steel Beams

Effectiveness ●●●●○

When anchored top and bottom, and properly grouted to the wall to prevent point-loading, I-Beams can be effective in stopping wall movement.

Aesthetics ●○○○○

I-Beams sit off the wall approximately 6" and will rust over time due to the damp nature of basements. This creates an obvious red flag when selling your home in the future.

Warranty ●●○○○

Steel beams are a commodity with no manufacture support. Warranties on I-Beams are provided by the installation contractor only.

Cost ●●●●○

Overall, I-Beams are reasonably priced. Their cost can fluctuate based on steel pricing, but the majority of the cost is related to installation labor.

Wall Anchors

Effectiveness ●○○○○

Wall anchors are best utilized when digging out the back fill and straightening the wall. They should not be left as the only stabilization method as they can lose anchoring in the soil over time, or worse, they can even pop through the wall.

Aesthetics ●●○○○

The plates and rod protrude from the wall, which cannot easily be concealed.

Warranty ●●○○○

Anchors are often sold with an annual maintenance package to tighten, which is not effective at pulling the wall back as often promised. They are also are known to leak.

Cost ●○○○○

Since their real purpose is to be used as a wall straightening device combined with backfill removal, wall anchors are cost prohibitive as a stabilization system.

Carbon Fiber

Effectiveness ●●●○○

Fabric alone will only stop a bow and must be anchored to fully stabilize a wall. Fabrics are dependent on field saturation and effective wall preparation, creating a high margin for error in the installation process.

Aesthetics ●●●●●

Carbon Fabric is very thin and can easily be painted over or hidden behind a finished wall.

Warranty ●●●○○

Most carbon fabric includes a manufactures warranty, but it is typically a material-only warranty. If your contractor does not include a labor warranty you would be responsible for reinstallation costs.

Cost ●●●●○

Carbon Fiber Fabric is generally priced similar to I-Beams. Labor for wall prep can make fabric systems more expensive.

InvisiBeam® Platinum

Effectiveness ●●●●●

The patented InvisiBeam® Platinum system stops all types of lateral wall movement. It is ICC certified and can only be installed by factory-trained authorized contractors. InvisiBeam® carbon is pre-cured in the factory leaving very little margin for installation error.

Aesthetics ●●●●●

InvisiBeam® carbon/kevlar® straps, like carbon fiber fabric, are thin and can easily be hidden behind paint or a finished wall.

Warranty ●●●●●

InvisiBeam® offers a lifetime factory material and labor warranty. If an InvisiBeam® system were to fail, Fortress with work with the contractor correct the situation.

Cost ●●●●○

InvisiBeam® is typically installed at a price comparable with an I-Beam or Carbon Fiber Fabric System.