CITY OF CLEVELAND, TN
DEVELOPMENT AND ENGINEERING
RESIDENTIAL INSPECTION CHECKLIST

Please note: This list is not inclusive of all items that may require inspection. Failure to be ready for a requested inspection may result in a re-inspection fee. In a Special Flood Hazard Area, all provisions of the municipal code and Flood-Resistant construction must be followed.

The information, tables, and images provided in this document are based on the American Wood Council's "Prescriptive Residential Wood Deck Construction Guide". This document in its entirety is available upon request from our office for additional information.

DECKS

GENERAL

1. This document does not apply to decks supporting a hot tub or similar large concentrated load. An engineered drawing will be required in these instances.
2. All decks require a permit except for those that are detached from the dwelling, less than 200 square feet, and less than 30" in height from the ground.
3. All decks shall be constructed of materials resistant to moisture and decay.
4. All screws, bolts, washers, nuts, and nails for use with preservative treated wood shall be hot-dipped zinc-coated galvanized steel, stainless steel, silicon bronze, or copper.
5. In lieu of the requirements in this document, an engineer's report showing structural equivalency may be submitted for review.

FOOTINGS AND POSTS

1. Decks are required to be properly anchored to the ground. Prefabricated deck footings that sit on top of the ground are not permitted to serve as the foundation for a deck.
2. All footings must be a minimum 12" deep. Exact footing size to be determined by the following Table 4 from the American Wood Council, based on material, post height, beam span, and joist span.
3. All posts must be a minimum 6x6 and shall not exceed a height of 14' without an engineered detail.
4. The following Figure 12 shows some typical footing options that are acceptable means of anchoring the deck to the ground. Approved metal fasteners that are installed according to manufacturer's instructions and demonstrate code equivalency in the specifications are permitted.

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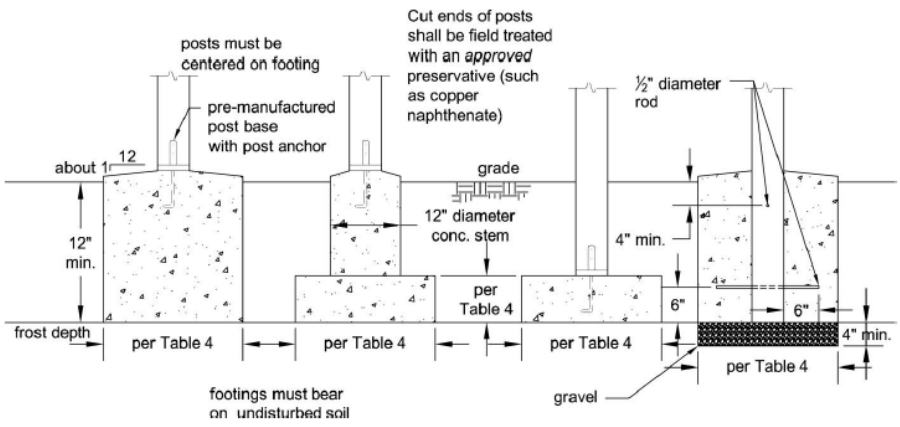
Table 4. Post Height for 6x6[5] and Footing Sizes for all Posts.

Beam Span, L_B	Joist Span L_J	Post Heights[1]					Footing Sizes[2]		
		Southern Pine	Douglas Fir-Larch[3]	Hem-Fir[3], Western Cedars	Redwood	Ponderosa Pine, Red Pine, SPF[3]	Round Footing Diameter	Square Footing	Footing Thickness[4]
6'	≤10'	14'	14'	14'	14'	14'	18"	16"x16"	7"
	≤14'	14'	14'	14'	14'	14'	21"	18"x18"	8"
	≤18'	14'	14'	12'	14'	11'	24"	21"x21"	10"
8'	≤10'	14'	14'	14'	14'	14'	20"	18"x18"	8"
	≤14'	14'	14'	14'	14'	11'	24"	21"x21"	10"
	≤18'	14'	13'	11'	12'	8'	27"	24"x24"	11"
10'	≤10'	14'	14'	14'	14'	12'	23"	20"x20"	9"
	≤14'	14'	13'	11'	13'	8'	27"	24"x24"	11"
	≤18'	12'	11'	8'	11'	2'	31"	27"x27"	13"
12'	≤10'	14'	14'	12'	14'	10'	25"	22"x22"	10"
	≤14'	13'	12'	9'	11'	5'	30"	26"x26"	13"
	≤18'	11'	9'	6'	9'	2'	34"	30"x30"	15"
14'	≤10'	14'	13'	11'	13'	8'	27"	24"x24"	11"
	≤14'	11'	10'	7'	10'	2'	32"	29"x29"	14"
	≤18'	9'	8'	2'	8'	NP	37"	33"x33"	16"
16'	≤10'	13'	12'	10'	12'	6'	29"	26"x26"	12"
	≤14'	10'	9'	5'	9'	2'	35"	31"x31"	15"
	≤18'	7'	5'	2'	7'	NP	40"	35"x35"	18"
18'	≤10'	12'	11'	8'	11'	2'	31"	27"x27"	13"
	≤14'	9'	8'	2'	8'	NP	37"	33"x33"	16"
	≤18'	5'	2'	2'	6'	NP	42"	37"x37"	19"

1. Assumes 40 psf live load, 10 psf dead load, L_B/4 and L_J/4 overhangs, No 2. Stress grade and wet service conditions.
2. Assumes 1,500 psf soil bearing capacity and 150 pcf concrete. Value may be multiplied by 0.9 for corner posts.
3. Incising assumed for Douglas fir-larch, hem-fir, and spruce-pine-fir.
4. Assumes 2,500 psi compressive strength of concrete. Coordinate footing thickness with post base and anchor requirements.
5. 8x8 nominal posts may be substituted anywhere in Table 4 to a maximum height of 14'.

Figure 12. Typical Footing Options.



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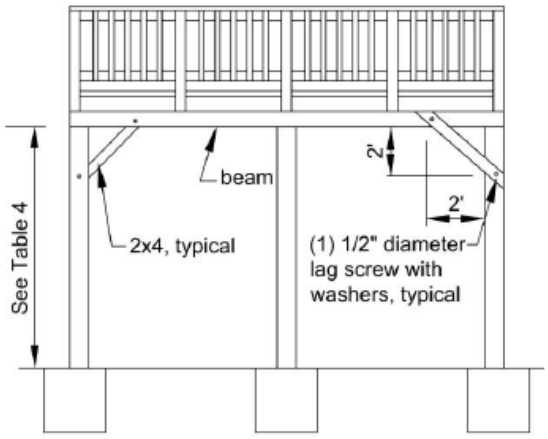
Post Bracing and Attachment to Beam

1. For posts greater than 2’-0” in height, diagonal bracing shall be required as shown in the following Figure 10:

Figure 10. Diagonal Bracing.



DIAGONAL BRACING PARALLEL TO BEAM
Note: Diagonal Bracing is prohibited on center posts.

2. The following Figures 8A and 8B show two approved methods for post to beam attachments, while Figure 9 shows a prohibited attachment method:

Figure 8A. Post-to-Beam Attachment Requirements.

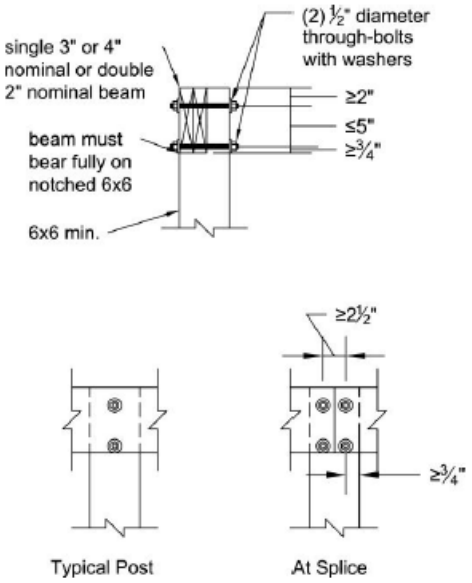


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Figure 8B. Alternate *Approved* Post-to-Beam Post Cap Attachment.

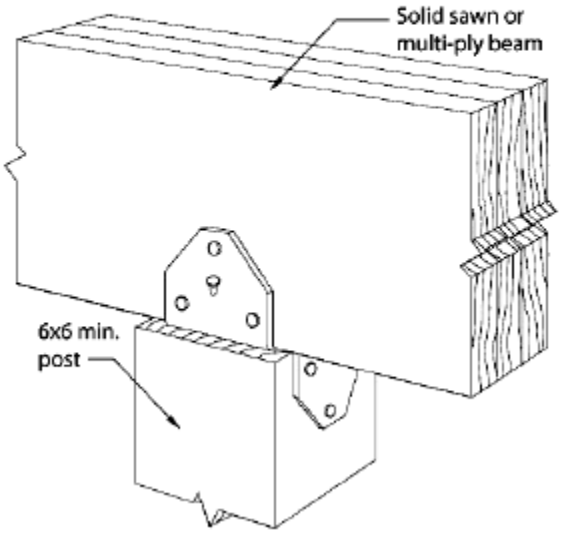
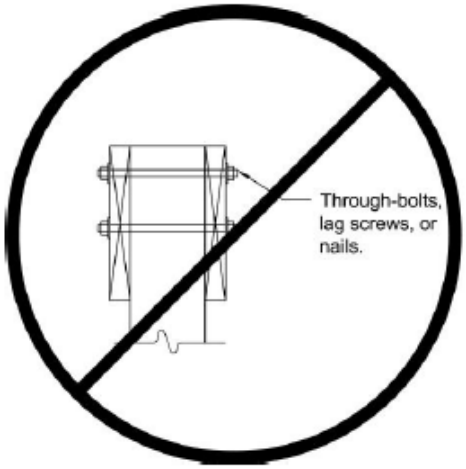


Figure 9. Prohibited Post-to-Beam Attachment Condition.



Note: Support of beams w/ fasteners only is prohibited. Bearing is required. See Figure 8A.

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Joists, Attachment to House, and Beams

1. The joists supporting the deck boards shall not exceed the limits listed in Table 2, which provides the maximum allowable joists spans and overhang based on joist size and spacing. In no instance shall a joist exceed a span of 18'-0".

Table 2. Maximum Joist Spans and Overhangs.[1]

		Joist Spacing (o.c.)					
		12"	16"	24"	12"	16"	24"
Species	Size	Allowable Span[2] (L_J)			Allowable Overhang[3] (L_O)		
Southern Pine	2x6[6]	9' - 11"	9' - 0"	7' - 7"	1' - 0"	1' - 1"	1' - 3"
	2x8	13' - 1"	11' - 10"	9' - 8"	1' - 10"	2' - 0"	2' - 4"
	2x10	16' - 2"	14' - 0"	11' - 5"	3' - 1"	3' - 5"	2' - 10"
	2x12	18' - 0"[7]	16' - 6"	13' - 6"	4' - 6"	4' - 2"	3' - 4"
Douglas Fir-Larch, Hem-Fir, Spruce-Pine-Fir[4]	2x6[6]	9' - 6"	8' - 4"	6' - 10"	0' - 11"	1' - 0"	1' - 2"
	2x8	12' - 6"	11' - 1"	9' - 1"	1' - 8"	1' - 10"	2' - 2"
	2x10	15' - 8"	13' - 7"	11' - 1"	2' - 10"	3' - 2"	2' - 9"
	2x12	18' - 0"[7]	15' - 9"	12' - 10"	4' - 4"	3' - 11"	3' - 3"
Redwood, Western Cedars, Ponderosa Pine[5], Red Pine[5]	2x6[6]	8' - 10"	8' - 0"	6' - 10"	0' - 9"	0' - 10"	0' - 11"
	2x8	11' - 8"	10' - 7"	8' - 8"	1' - 5"	1' - 7"	1' - 9"
	2x10	14' - 11"	13' - 0"	10' - 7"	2' - 5"	2' - 7"	2' - 8"
	2x12	17' - 5"	15' - 1"	12' - 4"	3' - 7"	3' - 9"	3' - 1"

1. Assumes 40 psf live load, 10 psf dead load, No. 2 stress grade, and wet service conditions.
2. Assumes L/360 deflection.
3. Maximum allowable overhang cannot exceed L/4 or ¼ of actual main span. Assumes cantilever length/180 deflection with 220 lb point load (See Figure 1A and Figure 2).
4. Incising assumed for Douglas fir-larch, hem-fir, and spruce-pine-fir.
5. Design values based on northern species with no incising assumed.
6. Ledger shall be a minimum of 2x8 nominal. Where guards are required, outside joists and rim joists shall be a minimum of 2x8 nominal.
7. Joist length prescriptively limited to 18'-0" for footing design.

2. Adjacent to the house, the deck shall either be attached to the house using a ledger board, or shall have a set of posts next to the house that support the deck.
3. Attachment to the house shall be through the use of ½" diameter through-bolts for wood, or through approved expansion or adhesive anchors when attaching a ledger board to a concrete or solid masony wall.
4. Approved alternative engineered fasterners may be used for ledger attachment to house when installed per manufacturer's instructions and specifications demonstrate code equivalency.
5. Ledger board fastening to the house must be directly to the rim board and cannot be through the exterior veneer to ensure proper attachment.

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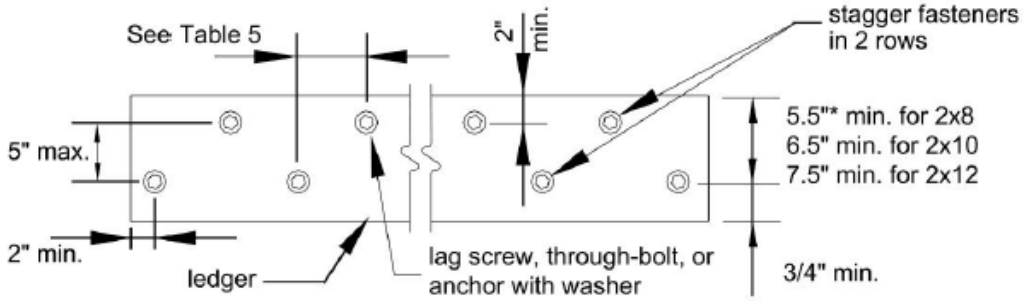
6. The bolts attaching the ledger to the house must be installed as follows:

Figure 19. Ledger Board Fastener Spacing and Clearances.



See Figure 14 for rim joist fastener spacing

*Distance can be reduced to 4.5" if lag screws are used or bolt spacing is reduced to that of lag screws to attach 2x8 ledgers to 2x8 band joists (1/2" stacked washers not permitted)

Table 5. Fastener Spacing for a Southern Pine, Douglas Fir-Larch, or Hem-Fir Deck Ledger or Band or Rim Joist and a 2-inch Nominal Solid-Sawn Spruce-Pine-Fir Band Joist or EWP Rim Joist.[3,4,5,6,8]
(Deck Live Load = 40 psf, Deck Dead Load = 10 psf)

Joist Span	Rim Joist or Band Joist	6'-0" and less	6'-1" to 8'-0"	8'-1" to 10'-0"	10'-1" to 12'-0"	12'-1" to 14'-0"	14'-1" to 16'-0"	16'-1" to 18'-0"
Connection Details	**On-Center Spacing of Fasteners**							
½" diameter lag screw[1] with 15/32" maximum sheathing	1" EWP	24"	18"	14"	12"	10"	9"	8"
	1-1/8" EWP	28"	21"	16"	14"	12"	10"	9"
	1-½" Lumber	30"	23"	18"	15"	13"	11"	10"
½" diameter bolt with 15/32" maximum sheathing	1" EWP	24"	18"	14"	12"	10"	9"	8"
	1-1/8" EWP	28"	21"	16"	14"	12"	10"	9"
	1-½" Lumber	36"	36"	34"	29"	24"	21"	19"
½" diameter bolt with 15/32" maximum sheathing and ½" stacked washers[2,7]	1-½" Lumber	36"	36"	29"	24"	21"	18"	16"

1. The tip of the lag screw shall fully extend beyond the inside face of the band or rim joist.
2. The maximum gap between the face of the ledger board and face of the wall sheathing shall be ½".
3. Ledgers shall be flashed or caulked to prevent water from contacting the house band joist (see Figures 14 and 15).
4. Lag screws and bolts shall be staggered per Figure 19.
5. Deck ledgers shall be minimum 2x8 pressure-preservative-treated No.2 grade lumber, or other *approved* materials as established by standard engineering practice.
6. When solid-sawn pressure-preservative-treated deck ledgers are attached to engineered wood products (minimum 1" thick wood structural panel band joist or structural composite lumber including laminated veneer lumber), the ledger attachment shall be designed in accordance with accepted engineering practice. Tabulated values based on 300 lbs and 350 lbs for 1" and 1-1/8" EWP rim joist, respectively.
7. Wood structural panel sheathing, gypsum board sheathing, or foam sheathing shall be permitted between the band or rim joist and ledger. Stacked washers are permitted in combination with wood structural panel sheathing, but are not permitted in combination with gypsum board or foam sheathing. The maximum distance between the face of the ledger board and the face of the band joist shall be 1".
8. Fastener spacing also applies to southern pine, Douglas fir-larch, and hem-fir band or rim joists.

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7. Deck beams supporting floor joists must not exceed the limitations set in the following chart:

Table 3A. Dimension Lumber Deck Beam Spans (L_B)[1] for Joists Framing from One Side Only.

Species	Size[4]	Joist Spans (L) Less Than or Equal to: 6'	8'	10'	12'	14'	16'	18'
Southern Pine	2-2x6	6' - 8"	5' - 8"	5' - 1"	4' - 7"	4' - 3"	4' - 0"	3' - 9"
	2-2x8	8' - 6"	7' - 4"	6' - 6"	5' - 11"	5' - 6"	5' - 1"	4' - 9"
	2-2x10	10' - 1"	8' - 9"	7' - 9"	7' - 1"	6' - 6"	6' - 1"	5' - 9"
	2-2x12	11' - 11"	10' - 4"	9' - 2"	8' - 4"	7' - 9"	7' - 3"	6' - 9"
	3-2x6	7' - 11"	7' - 2"	6' - 5"	5' - 10"	5' - 5"	5' - 0"	4' - 9"
	3-2x8	10' - 7"	9' - 3"	8' - 3"	7' - 6"	6' - 11"	6' - 5"	6' - 1"
	3-2x10	12' - 9"	11' - 0"	9' - 9"	8' - 9"	8' - 3"	7' - 8"	7' - 3"
	3-2x12	15' - 0"	13' - 0"	11' - 7"	10' - 6"	9' - 9"	9' - 1"	8' - 7"
Douglas Fir-Larch[2], Hem-Fir[2], Spruce-Pine-Fir[2], Redwood, Western Cedars, Ponderosa Pine[3], Red Pine[3]	3x6 or 2-2x6	5' - 2"	4' - 5"	3' - 11"	3' - 7"	3' - 3"	2' - 10"	2' - 6"
	3x8 or 2-2x8	6' - 7"	5' - 8"	5' - 1"	4' - 7"	4' - 3"	3' - 10"	3' - 5"
	3x10 or 2-2x10	8' - 1"	7' - 0"	6' - 3"	5' - 8"	5' - 3"	4' - 10"	4' - 5"
	3x12 or 2-2x12	9' - 5"	8' - 2"	7' - 3"	6' - 7"	6' - 1"	5' - 8"	5' - 4"
	4x6	6' - 2"	5' - 3"	4' - 8"	4' - 3"	3' - 11"	3' - 8"	3' - 5"
	4x8	8' - 2"	7' - 0"	6' - 3"	5' - 8"	5' - 3"	4' - 11"	4' - 7"
	4x10	9' - 8"	8' - 4"	7' - 5"	6' - 9"	6' - 3"	5' - 10"	5' - 5"
	4x12	11' - 2"	9' - 8"	8' - 7"	7' - 10"	7' - 3"	6' - 9"	6' - 4"
	3-2x6	7' - 1"	6' - 5"	5' - 9"	5' - 3"	4' - 10"	4' - 6"	4' - 3"
	3-2x8	9' - 5"	8' - 3"	7' - 4"	6' - 8"	6' - 2"	5' - 9"	5' - 5"
	3-2x10	11' - 9"	10' - 2"	9' - 1"	8' - 3"	7' - 7"	7' - 1"	6' - 8"
	3-2x12	13' - 8"	11' - 10"	10' - 6"	9' - 7"	8' - 10"	8' - 3"	7' - 10"

1. Assumes 40 psf live load, 10 psf dead load, L/360 simple span beam deflection limit, cantilever length/180 deflection limit, No. 2 stress grade, and wet service conditions.
2. Incising assumed for Douglas fir-larch, hem-fir, and spruce-pine-fir.
3. Design values based on northern species with no incising assumed.
4. Beam depth must be equal to or greater than joist depth if joist hangers are used (see Figure 6, Option 3).

Handrails, Guardrails, and Stairs

1. Guardrails required when the floor of the deck is at 30” above grade at any point measured 5’-0” away from the edge of the deck. (R312.1.1)
2. Guards shall not have openings which allow passage of a 4” sphere. (R312.1.3)
3. Triangle formed by riser, tread and bottom element of guardrail does not allow passage of a 6” sphere. (R312.1.3)
4. Required guards shall not be less than 36” in height above adjacent walking surface. (R312.1.2)
5. Handrail required at stairs with 4 or more risers. (R311.7.8)

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6. Handrail height shall not be less than 34” and not more than 38”. (R311.7.8.1)
7. Handrail shall be graspable and of approved dimensions. (R311.7.8.3)
8. Handrails are continuous for the full length of the stairway. (R311.7.8.2)
9. Handrail ends shall be returned or terminate in newel post or safety terminal. (R311.7.8.2)
10. Stairways shall not be less than 36” in clear width at all points above the permitted handrail height. (R311.7.1)