NEW YORK STATE CODE AND TOWN CODE SPECIFICATIONS

DECKS

ALL FOOTINGS MINIMUM 48 INCHES

BELOW GRADE

WHEN LEDGER IS LAGGED TO BUILDING USE PROPER FLASHING & BOLTS

USE PROPER MECHANICAL CONNECTIONS BETWEEN PIERS, POSTS & BEAM

MAXIMUM OPENING BETWEEN SPINDLES TO BE 4"

DECKS SERVICING A SWIMMING POOL NEED A SELF- CLOSING/LATCHING GATE 4FT. IN HEIGHT WITH A LATCH HANDLE 54" HIGH. GATE TO SWING OUTWARD FROM POOL.

RAILINGS REQUIRED ON STAIRS WITH 4 OR MORE RISERS

RAILING OR GUARD HEIGHT TO BE 36" MINIMUM

MAXIMUM RISER 8 ¼"

OPEN TREAD 9"

CLOSED TREAD 9 ¾" TO 10 ¼"

CLOSED RISERS REQUIRED ON STAIRS OVER 30" IN HIEGHT

## RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS SCHEDULE OF INSPECTIONS

NOTE: NO CONSTRUCTION CAN BE USED OR OCCUPIED WITHOUT THE REQUIRED INSPECTIONS AND EITHER OBTAINING A CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY OR COMPLIANCE.

DECKS

Pier inspection- Prior to pouring any concrete an inspection is required.

Framing inspection- When all framing is completed including beams, floor joists, decking, railings, steps and balusters.

Final Inspection- When job is completed (This inspection can be done the same time as framing provided that all framing material is visible for inspection.)
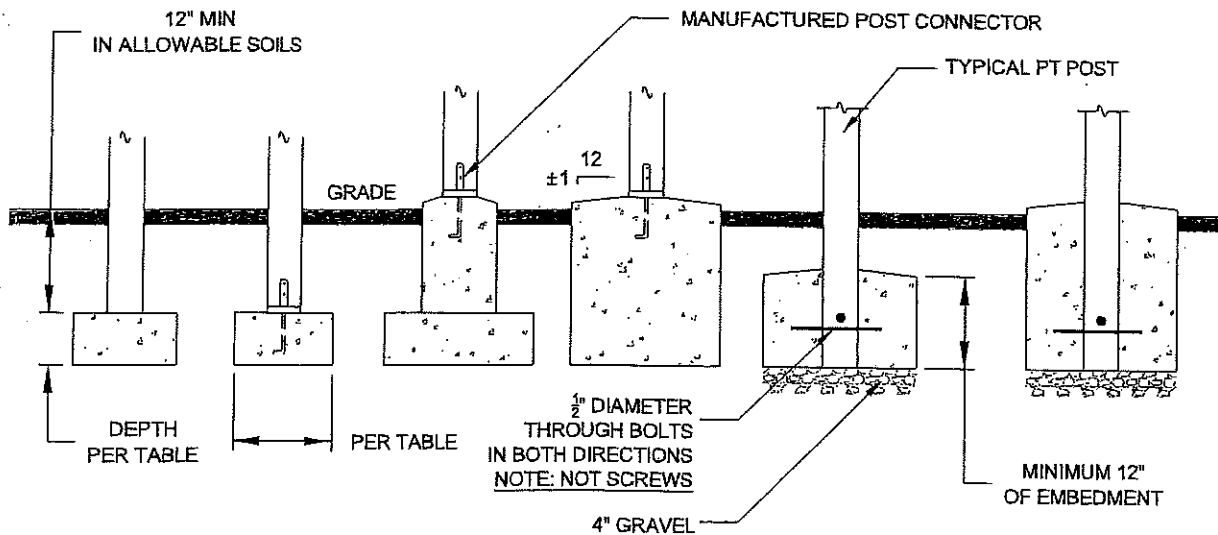
NOTE:
POSTS MUST BE CENTERED ON OR IN FOOTING

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm.

FIGURE R507.3
DECK POSTS TO DECK FOOTING CONNECTION

R507.3.2 Minimum depth. Deck footings shall extend below the frost line specified in Table R301.2(1) in accordance with Section R403.1.4.1.

Exceptions:

1. Free-standing decks that meet all of the following criteria:

   1.1. The joists bear directly on precast concrete pier blocks at grade without support by beams or posts.

   1.2. The area of the deck does not exceed 200 square feet (18.9 m²).

   1.3. The walking surface is not more than 20 inches (616 mm) above grade at any point within 36 inches (914 mm) measured horizontally from the edge.

2. Free-standing decks need not be provided with footings that extend below the frost line.

R507.4 Deck posts. For single-level wood-framed decks with beams sized in accordance with Table R507.5, deck post size shall be in accordance with Table R507.4.

TABLE R507.4
DECK POST HEIGHT[a]

DECK POST SIZE	MAXIMUM HEIGHT[a,b] (feet-inches)
4 × 4	6-9[c]
4 × 6	8
6 × 6	14
8 × 8	14

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm, 1 foot = 304.8 mm,
1 pound per square foot = 0.0479 kPa.
a. Measured to the underside of the beam.
b. Based on 40 psf live load.
c. The maximum permitted height is 8 feet for one-ply and two-ply beams. The maximum permitted height for three-ply beams on post cap is 6 feet 9 inches.

R507.4.1 Deck post to deck footing connection. Where posts bear on concrete footings in accordance with Section R403 and Figure R507.4.1, lateral restraint shall be provided by manufactured connectors or a minimum post embedment of 12 inches (305 mm) in surrounding soils or concrete piers. Other footing systems shall be permitted.

Exception: Where expansive, compressible, shifting or other questionable soils are present, surrounding soils shall not be relied on for lateral support.

R507.5 Deck beams. Maximum allowable spans for wood deck beams, as shown in Figure R507.5, shall be in accordance with Table R507.5. Beam plies shall be fastened with two rows of 10d (3-inch × 0.128-inch) nails minimum at 16 inches (406 mm) on center along each edge. Beams shall be permitted to cantilever at each end up to one-fourth of the allowable beam span. Deck beams of other materials shall be permitted where designed in accordance with accepted engineering practices.

TABLE R507.3.1
MINIMUM FOOTING SIZE FOR DECKS [a, c, d]

LIVE OR GROUND SNOW LOAD[b] (psf)	TRIBUTARY AREA (sq. ft.)	LOAD BEARING VALUE OF SOILS[a, c, d] (psf)											
		1500			2000			2500			≥ 3000		
		Side of a square footing (inches)	Diameter of a round footing (inches)	Thickness (inches)	Side of a square footing (inches)	Diameter of a round footing (inches)	Thickness (inches)	Side of a square footing (inches)	Diameter of a round footing (inches)	Thickness (inches)	Side of a square footing (inches)	Diameter of a round footing (inches)	Thickness (inches)
40	20	12	14	6	12	14	6	12	14	6	12	14	6
	40	14	16	6	12	14	6	12	14	6	12	14	6
	60	17	19	6	15	17	6	13	15	6	12	14	6
	80	20	22	7	17	19	6	15	17	6	14	16	6
	100	22	25	8	19	21	6	17	19	6	15	17	6
	120	24	27	9	21	23	7	19	21	6	17	19	6
	140	26	29	10	22	25	8	20	23	7	18	21	6
	160	28	31	11	24	27	9	21	24	8	20	22	7
50	20	12	14	6	12	14	6	12	14	6	12	14	6
	40	15	17	6	13	15	6	12	14	6	12	14	6
	60	19	21	6	16	18	6	14	16	6	13	15	6
	80	21	24	8	19	21	6	17	19	6	15	17	6
	100	24	27	9	21	23	7	19	21	6	17	19	6
	120	26	30	10	23	26	8	20	23	7	19	21	6
	140	28	32	11	25	28	9	22	25	8	20	23	7
	160	30	34	12	26	30	10	24	27	9	21	24	8
60	20	12	14	6	12	14	6	12	14	6	12	14	6
	40	16	19	6	14	16	6	13	14	6	12	14	6
	60	20	23	7	17	20	6	16	18	6	14	16	6
	80	23	26	9	20	23	7	18	20	6	16	19	6
	100	26	29	10	22	25	8	20	23	6	18	21	6
	120	28	32	11	25	28	9	22	25	8	20	23	7
	140	31	35	12	27	30	10	24	27	9	22	24	8
	160	33	37	13	28	32	11	25	29	10	23	26	9
70	20	12	14	6	12	14	6	12	14	6	12	14	6
	40	18	20	6	15	17	6	14	15	6	14	14	6
	60	21	24	8	19	21	6	17	19	6	15	17	6
	80	25	28	9	21	24	8	19	22	6	18	20	6
	100	28	31	11	24	27	8	21	24	7	20	22	7
	120	30	34	12	26	30	9	24	27	8	21	24	8
	140	33	37	13	28	32	10	25	29	9	23	26	9
	160	35	40	15	30	34	12	27	31	11	25	28	9

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm, 1 square foot = 0.0929 m², 1 pound per square foot = 0.0479 kPa.

a. Interpolation permitted, extrapolation not permitted.
b. Based on highest load case: Dead + Live or Dead + Snow.
c. Assumes minimum square footing to be 12 inches x 12 inches x 6 inches for 6 x 6 post.
d. If the support is a brick or CMU pier, the footing shall have a minimum 2-inch projection on all sides.
e. Area, in square feet, of deck surface supported by post and footings.

R507.5.1 Deck beam bearing. The ends of beams shall have not less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches (38 mm) of bearing on wood or metal and not less than 3 inches (76 mm) of bearing on concrete or masonry for the entire width of the beam. Where multiple-span beams bear on intermediate posts, each ply must have full bearing on the post in accordance with Figures R507.5.1(1) and R507.5.1(2).

R507.5.2 Deck beam connection to supports. Deck beams shall be attached to supports in a manner capable of transferring vertical loads and resisting horizontal displacement. Deck beam connections to wood posts shall be in accordance with Figures R507.5.1(1) and R507.5.1(2). Manufactured post-to-beam connectors shall be sized for the post and beam sizes. Bolts shall have washers under the head and nut.

R507.6 Deck joists. Maximum allowable spans for wood deck joists, as shown in Figure R507.6, shall be in accordance with Table R507.6. The maximum joist spacing shall be limited by the decking materials in accordance with Table R507.7. The maximum joist cantilever shall be limited to one-fourth of the joist span or the maximum cantilever length specified in Table R507.6, whichever is less.

R507.6.1 Deck joist bearing. The ends of joists shall have not less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches (38 mm) of bearing on wood or metal and not less than 3 inches (76 mm) of bearing on concrete or masonry over its entire width. Joists bearing on top of a multiple-ply beam or ledger shall be fastened in accordance with Table R602.3(1). Joists bearing on top of a single-ply beam or ledger shall be attached by a mechanical connector. Joist framing into the side of a beam or ledger board shall be supported by approved joist hangers.

R507.6.2 Deck joist lateral restraint. Joist ends and bearing locations shall be provided with lateral resistance to prevent rotation. Where lateral restraint is provided by joist hangers or blocking between joists, their depth shall equal not less than 60 percent of the joist depth. Where lateral restraint is provided by rim joists, they shall be secured to the end of each joist with not fewer than three 10d (3-inch by 0.128-inch) (76 mm by 3.3 mm) nails or three No. 10x 3-inch (76 mm) long wood screws.

R507.7 Decking. Maximum allowable spacing for joists supporting decking shall be in accordance with Table R507.7. Wood decking shall be attached to each supporting member with not less than two 8d threaded nails or two No. 8 wood screws. Other approved decking or fastener systems shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation requirements.

R507.8 Vertical and lateral supports. Where supported by attachment to an exterior wall, decks shall be positively anchored to the primary structure and designed for both vertical and lateral loads. Such attachment shall not be accomplished by the use of toenails or nails subject to withdrawal. For decks with cantilevered framing members, connection to exterior walls or other framing members shall be designed and constructed to resist uplift resulting from the full live load specified in Table R301.5 acting on the cantilevered portion of the deck. Where positive connection to the primary building structure cannot be verified during inspection, decks shall be self-supporting.

R507.9 Vertical and lateral supports at band joist. Vertical and lateral supports for decks shall comply with this section.

R507.9.1 Vertical supports. Vertical loads shall be transferred to band joists with ledgers in accordance with this section.

R507.9.1.1 Ledger details. Deck ledgers shall be a minimum 2-inch by 8-inch (51 mm by 203 mm) nominal, pressure-preservative-treated Southern pine, incised pressure-preservative-treated hem-fir, or approved, naturally durable, No. 2 grade or better lumber. Deck ledgers shall not support concentrated loads from beams or girders. Deck ledgers shall not be supported on stone or masonry veneer.

R507.9.1.2 Band joist details. Band joists supporting a ledger shall be a minimum 2-inch-nominal (51 mm), solid-sawn, spruce-pine-fir or better lumber or a minimum 1-inch by $9\frac{1}{2}$-inch (25 mm × 241 mm) dimensional, Douglas fir or better, laminated veneer lumber. Band joists shall bear fully on the primary structure capable of supporting all required loads.

R507.9.1.3 Ledger to band joist details. Fasteners used in deck ledger connections in accordance with Table R507.9.1.3(1) shall be hot-dipped galvanized or stainless steel and shall be installed in accordance with Table R507.9.1.3(2) and Figures R507.9.1.3(1) and R507.9.1.3(2).

R507.9.1.4 Alternate ledger details. Alternate framing configurations supporting a ledger constructed to meet the load requirements of Section R301.5 shall be permitted.

R507.9.2 Lateral connection. Lateral loads shall be transferred to the ground or to a structure capable of transmitting them to the ground. Where the lateral load connection is provided in accordance with Figure R507.9.2(1), hold-down tension devices shall be installed in not less than two locations per deck, within 24 inches (610 mm) of each end of the deck. Each device shall have an allowable stress design capacity of not less than 1,500 pounds (6672 N). Where the lateral load connections are provided in accordance with Figure R507.9.2(2), the hold-down tension devices shall be installed in not less than four locations per deck, and each device shall have an allowable stress design capacity of not less than 750 pounds (3336 N).
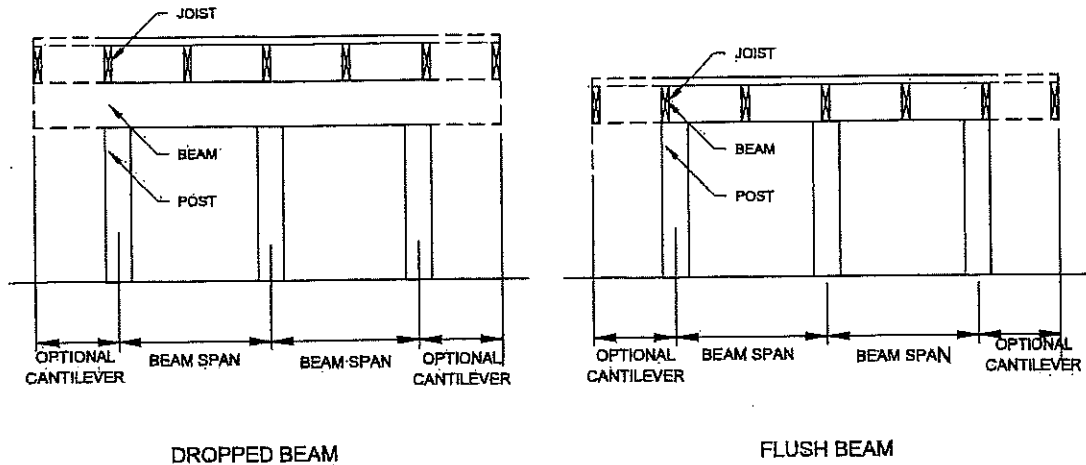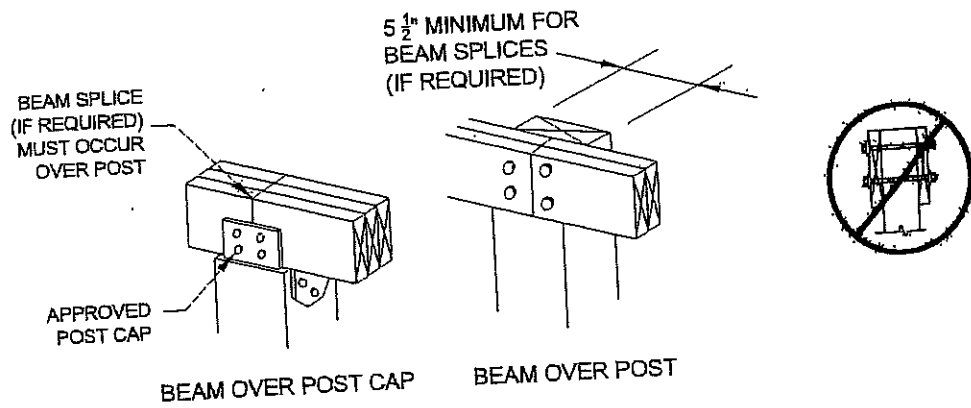
FIGURE R507.5
TYPICAL DECK JOIST SPANS

TABLE R507.5
DECK BEAM SPAN LENGTHS[a, b, g] (feet - inches)

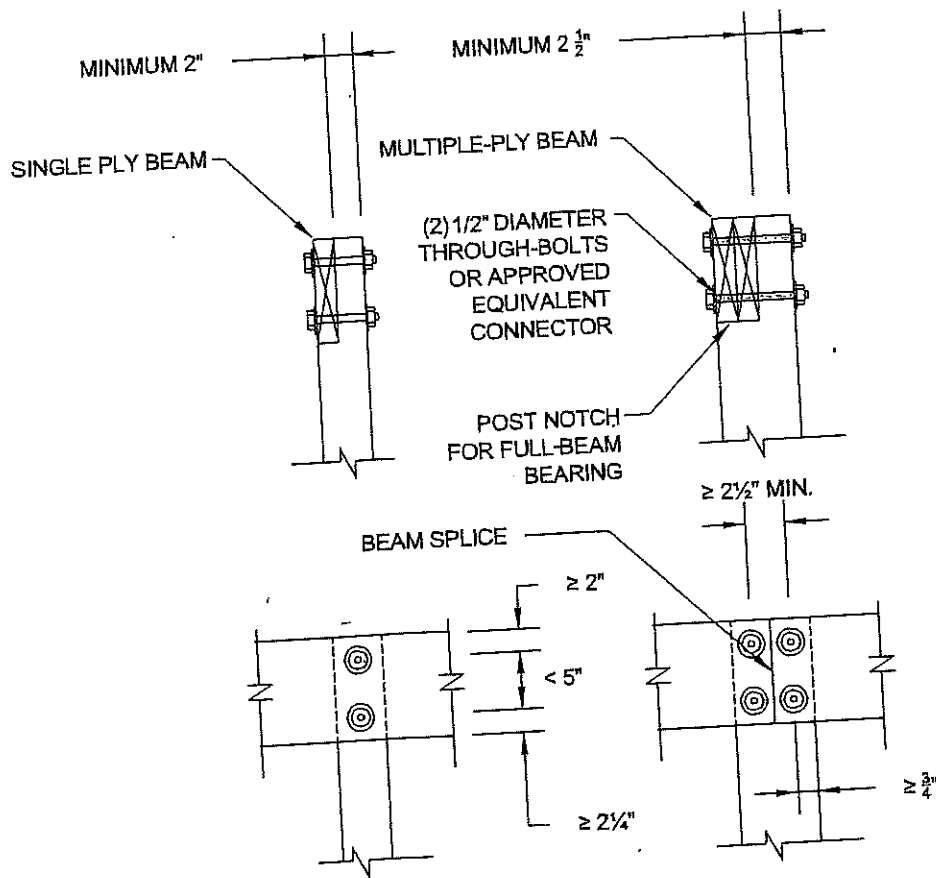| SPECIES[c]	SIZE[d]	DECK JOIST SPAN LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO: (feet)						
		6	8	10	12	14	16	18
Southern pine	1 – 2 × 6	4-11	4-0	3-7	3-3	3-0	2-10	2-8
	1 – 2 × 8	5-11	5-1	4-7	4-2	2-10	3-7	3-5
	1 – 2 × 10	7-0	6-0	5-5	4-11	4-7	4-3	4-0
	1 – 2 × 12	8-3	7-1	6-4	5-10	5-5	5-0	4-9
	2 – 2 × 6	6-11	5-11	5-4	4-10	4-6	4-3	4-0
	2 – 2 × 8	8-9	7-7	6-9	6-2	5-9	5-4	5-0
	2 – 2 × 10	10-4	9-0	8-0	7-4	6-9	6-4	6-0
	2 – 2 × 12	12-2	10-7	9-5	8-7	8-0	7-6	7-0
	3 – 2 × 6	8-2	7-5	6-8	6-1	5-8	5-3	5-0
	3 – 2 × 8	10-10	9-6	8-6	7-9	7-2	6-8	6-4
	3 – 2 × 10	13-0	11-3	10-0	9-2	8-6	7-11	7-6
	3 – 2 × 12	15-3	13-3	11-10	10-9	10-0	9-4	8-10
Douglas fir-larch[e], hem-fir[e], spruce-pine-fir[e], redwood, western cedars, ponderosa pine[f], red pine[f]	3 × 6 or 2 – 2 x 6	5-5	4-8	4-2	3-10	3-6	3-1	2-9
	3 × 8 or 2 – 2 × 8	6-10	5-11	5-4	4-10	4-6	4-1	3-8
	3 × 10 or 2 – 2 × 10	8-4	7-3	6-6	5-11	5-6	5-1	4-8
	3 × 12 or 2 – 2 × 12	9-8	8-5	7-6	6-10	6-4	5-11	5-7
	4 × 6	6-5	5-6	4-11	4-6	4-2	3-11	3-8
	4 × 8	8-5	7-3	6-6	5-11	5-6	5-2	4-10
	4 × 10	9-11	8-7	7-8	7-0	6-6	6-1	5-8
	4 × 12	11-5	9-11	8-10	8-1	7-6	7-0	6-7
	3 – 2 × 6	7-4	6-8	6-0	5-6	5-1	4-9	4-6
	3 – 2 × 8	9-8	8-6	7-7	6-11	6-5	6-0	5-8
	3 – 2 × 10	12-0	10-5	9-4	8-6	7-10	7-4	6-11
	3 – 2 × 12	13-11	12-1	10-9	9-10	9-1	8-6	8-1

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm, 1 foot = 304.8 mm, 1 pound per square foot = 0.0479 kPa, 1 pound = 0.454 kg.

a. Ground snow load, live load = 40 psf, dead load = 10 psf, L/Δ = 360 at main span, L/Δ = 180 at cantilever with a 220-pound point load applied at the end.
b. Beams supporting deck joists from one side only.
c. No. 2 grade, wet service factor.
d. Beam depth shall be greater than or equal to depth of joists with a flush beam condition.
e. Includes incising factor.
f. Northern species. Incising factor not included.
g. Beam cantilevers are limited to the adjacent beam's span divided by 4.

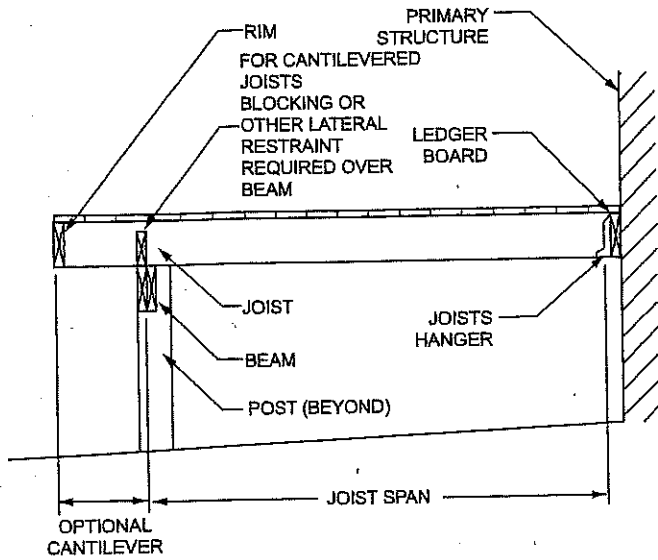**2020 RESIDENTIAL CODE OF NEW YORK STATE**

5 $\frac{1}{2}$" MINIMUM FOR
BEAM SPLICES
(IF REQUIRED)

BEAM SPLICE
(IF REQUIRED)
MUST OCCUR
OVER POST

APPROVED
POST CAP

BEAM OVER POST CAP   BEAM OVER POST

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm.

**FIGURE R507.5.1(1)
DECK BEAM TO DECK POST**

MINIMUM 2"   MINIMUM 2 $\frac{1}{2}$"

SINGLE PLY BEAM   MULTIPLE-PLY BEAM

(2) 1/2" DIAMETER
THROUGH-BOLTS
OR APPROVED
EQUIVALENT
CONNECTOR

POST NOTCH
FOR FULL-BEAM
BEARING

≥ 2½" MIN.

BEAM SPLICE

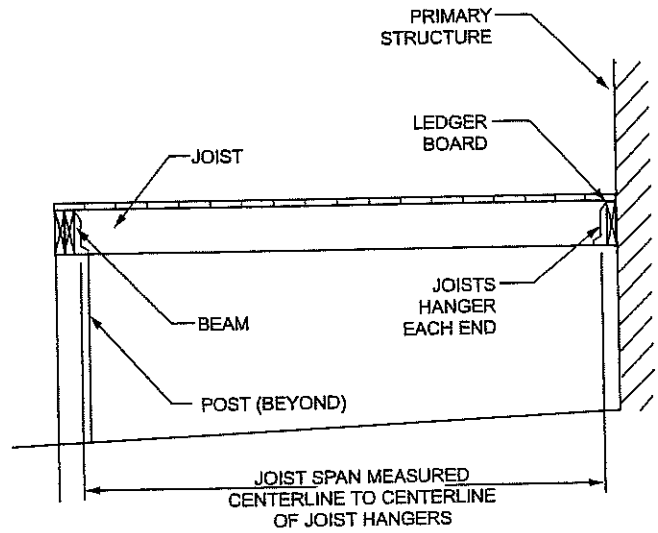≥ 2"

< 5"

≥ $\frac{3}{4}$"

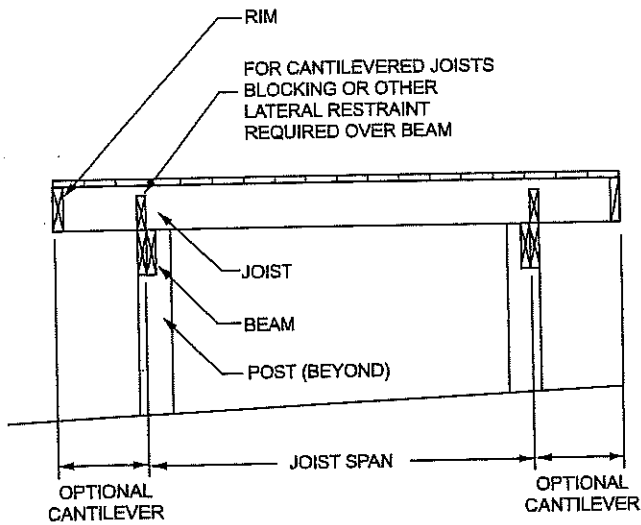≥ 2¼"

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm.

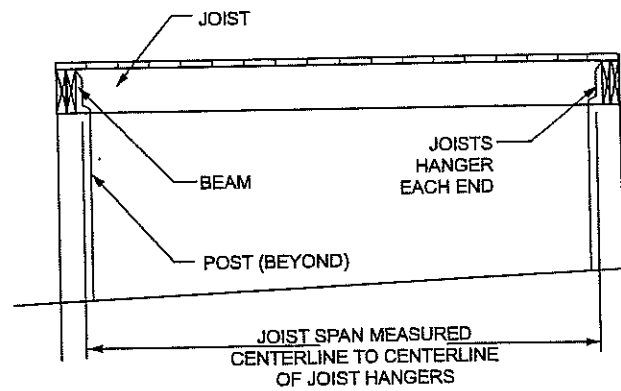**FIGURE R507.5.1(2)
NOTCHED POST-TO-BEAM CONNECTION**

CANTILEVERED JOISTS WITH DROPPED BEAM

JOISTS WITH FLUSH BEAM

JOISTS ON FREE-STANDING DECK
WITH DROPPED BEAM

JOISTS ON FREE-STANDING DECK
WITH FLUSH BEAM

**FIGURE R507.6
TYPICAL DECK JOIST SPANS**

TABLE R507.6
DECK JOIST SPANS FOR COMMON LUMBER SPECIES (ft. - in.)

| SPECIES[a] | SIZE | ALLOWABLE JOIST SPAN[b] | | | MAXIMUM CANTILEVER[c,f] | | |
| | | SPACING OF DECK JOISTS (inches) | | | SPACING OF DECK JOISTS WITH CANTILEVERS[c] (inches) | | |
		12	16	24	12	16	24
Southern pine	2 × 6	9-11	9-0	7-7	1-3	1-4	1-6
	2 × 8	13-1	11-10	9-8	2-1	2-3	2-5
	2 × 10	16-2	14-0	11-5	3-4	3-6	2-10
	2 × 12	18-0	16-6	13-6	4-6	4-2	3-4
Douglas fir-larch[d], hem-fir[d] spruce-pine-fir[d],	2 × 6	9-6	8-8	7-2	1-2	1-3	1-5
	2 × 8	12-6	11-1	9-1	1-11	2-1	2-3
	2 × 10	15-8	13-7	11-1	3-1	3-5	2-9
	2 × 12	18-0	15-9	12-10	4-6	3-11	3-3
Redwood, western cedars, ponderosa pine[e], red pine[e]	2 × 6	8-10	8-0	7-0	1-0	1-1	1-2
	2 × 8	11-8	10-7	8-8	1-8	1-10	2-0
	2 × 10	14-11	13-0	10-7	2-8	2-10	2-8
	2 × 12	17-5	15-1	12-4	3-10	3-9	3-1

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm, 1 foot = 304.8 mm, 1 pound per square foot = 0.0479 kPa, 1 pound = 0.454 kg.

a. No. 2 grade with wet service factor.
b. Ground snow load, live load = 40 psf, dead load = 10 psf, L/Δ = 360.
c. Ground snow load, live load = 40 psf, dead load = 10 psf, L/Δ = 360 at main span, L/Δ = 180 at cantilever with a 220-pound point load applied to end.
d. Includes incising factor.
e. Northern species with no incising factor.
f. Cantilevered spans not exceeding the nominal depth of the joist are permitted.

TABLE R507.7
MAXIMUM JOIST SPACING FOR DECKING

| DECKING MATERIAL TYPE AND NOMINAL SIZE | MAXIMUM ON-CENTER JOIST SPACING | |
	Decking perpendicular to joist	Decking diagonal to joist[a]
1¼-inch-thick wood	16 inches	12 inches
2-inch-thick wood	24 inches	16 inches
Plastic composite	In accordance with Section R507.2	In accordance with Section R507.2

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm, 1 foot = 304.8 mm, 1 degree = 0.01745 rad.
a. Maximum angle of 45 degrees from perpendicular for wood deck boards.

TABLE R507.9.1.3(1)
DECK LEDGER CONNECTION TO BAND JOIST[a, b]
(Deck live load = 40 psf, deck dead load = 10 psf, snow load ≤ 40 psf)

CONNECTION DETAILS	JOIST SPAN						
	6' and less	6'1" to 8'	8'1" to 10'	10'1" to 12'	12'1" to 14'	14'1" to 16'	16'1" to 18'
	On-center spacing of fasteners						
$\frac{1}{2}$-inch diameter lag screw with $\frac{1}{2}$-inch maximum sheathing[c, d]	30	23	18	15	13	11	10
$\frac{1}{2}$-inch diameter bolt with $\frac{1}{2}$-inch maximum sheathing[d]	36	36	34	29	24	21	19
$\frac{1}{2}$-inch diameter bolt with 1-inch maximum sheathing[e]	36	36	29	24	21	18	16

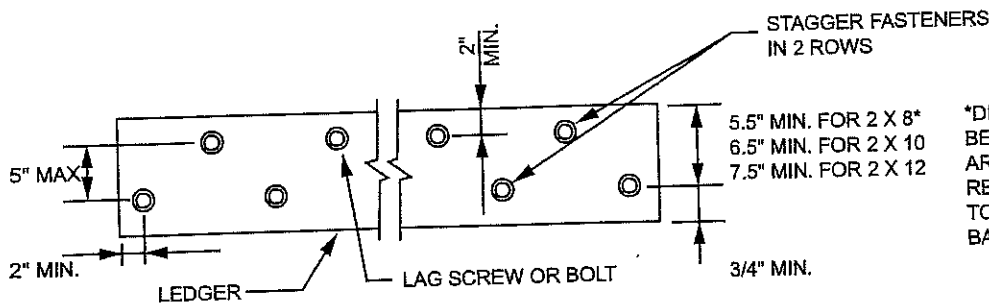For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm, 1 foot = 304.8 mm, 1 pound per square foot = 0.0479 kPa.

a. Ledgers shall be flashed in accordance with Section R703.4 to prevent water from contacting the house band joist.
b. Snow load shall not be assumed to act concurrently with live load.
c. The tip of the lag screw shall fully extend beyond the inside face of the band joist.
d. Sheathing shall be wood structural panel or solid sawn lumber.
e. Sheathing shall be permitted to be wood structural panel, gypsum board, fiberboard, lumber or foam sheathing. Up to $\frac{1}{2}$-inch thickness of stacked washers shall be permitted to substitute for up to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch of allowable sheathing thickness where combined with wood structural panel or lumber sheathing.

TABLE R507.9.1.3(2)
PLACEMENT OF LAG SCREWS AND BOLTS IN DECK LEDGERS AND BAND JOISTS

	MINIMUM END AND EDGE DISTANCES AND SPACING BETWEEN ROWS			
	TOP EDGE	BOTTOM EDGE	ENDS	ROW SPACING
Ledger[a]	2 inches[d]	$\frac{3}{4}$ inch	2 inches[b]	$1\frac{5}{8}$ inches[b]
Band Joist[c]	$\frac{3}{4}$ inch	2 inches	2 inches[b]	$1\frac{5}{8}$ inches[b]

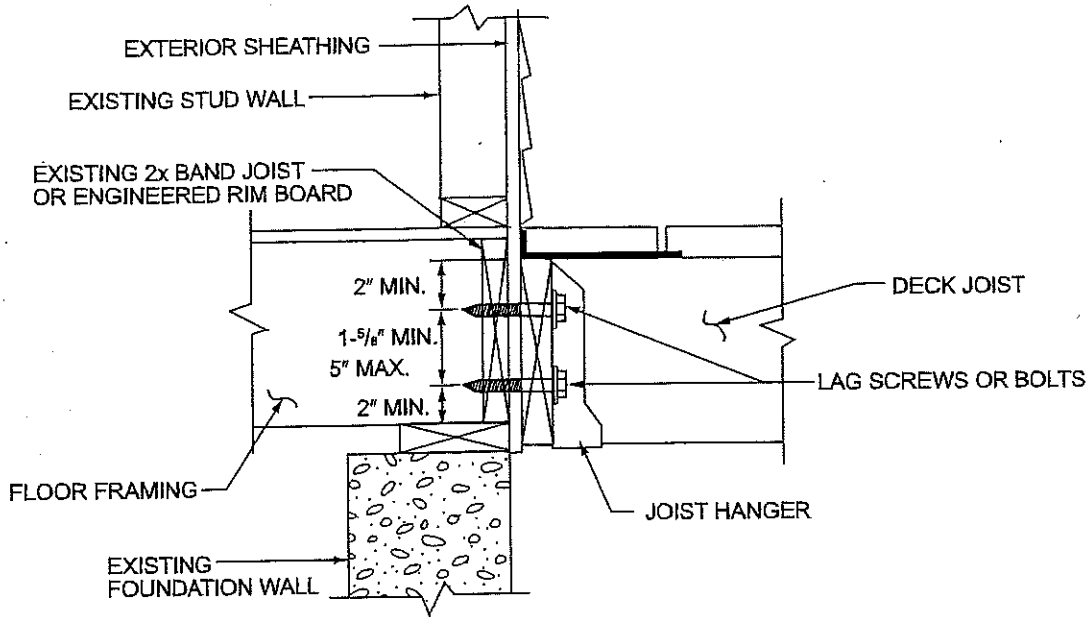For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm.

a. Lag screws or bolts shall be staggered from the top to the bottom along the horizontal run of the deck ledger in accordance with Figure R507.9.1.3(1).
b. Maximum 5 inches.
c. For engineered rim joists, the manufacturer's recommendations shall govern.
d. The minimum distance from bottom row of lag screws or bolts to the top edge of the ledger shall be in accordance with Figure R507.9.1.3(1).
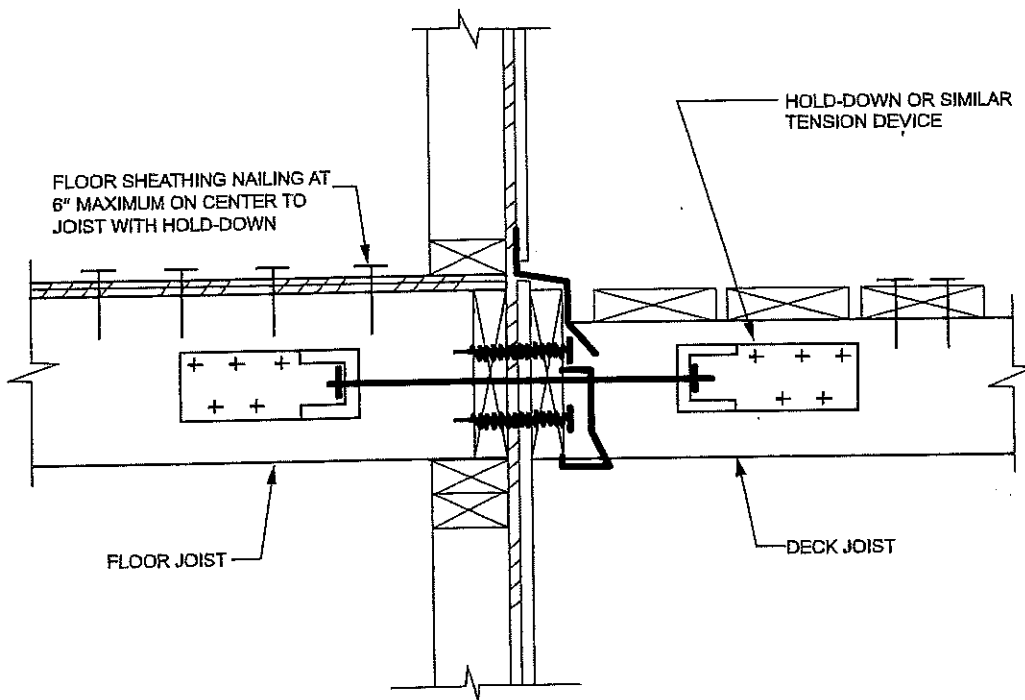

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm.

FIGURE R507.9.1.3(1)
PLACEMENT OF LAG SCREWS AND BOLTS IN LEDGERS

EXTERIOR SHEATHING

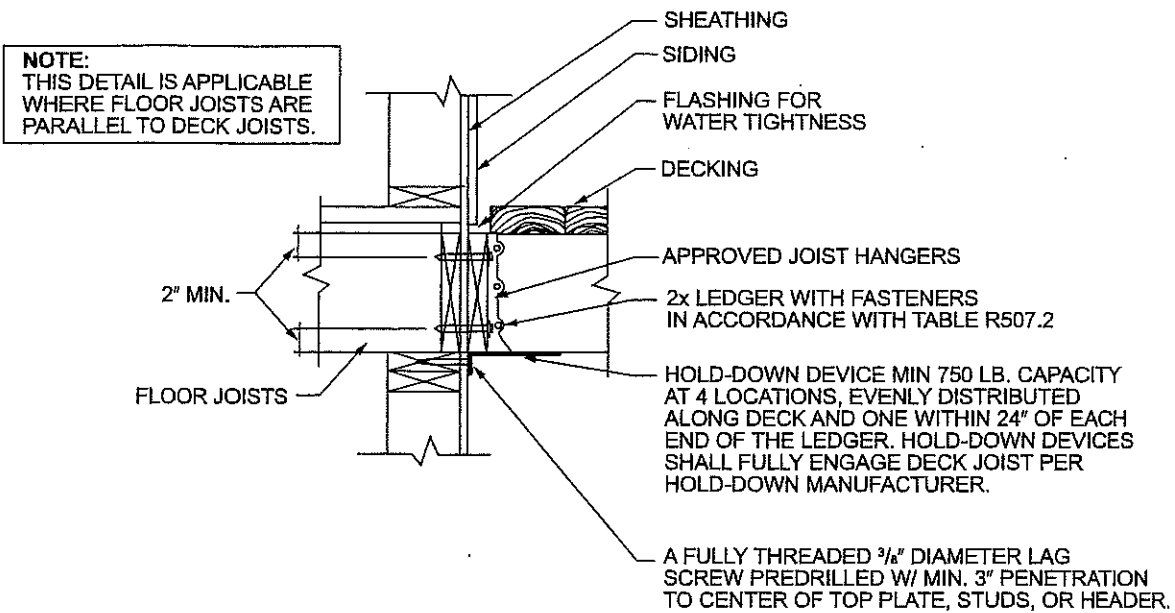EXISTING STUD WALL

EXISTING 2x BAND JOIST
OR ENGINEERED RIM BOARD

2" MIN.

1-5/8" MIN.
5" MAX.

2" MIN.

DECK JOIST

LAG SCREWS OR BOLTS

FLOOR FRAMING

JOIST HANGER

EXISTING
FOUNDATION WALL

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm.

FIGURE R507.9.1.3(2)
PLACEMENT OF LAG SCREWS AND BOLTS IN BAND JOISTS

HOLD-DOWN OR SIMILAR
TENSION DEVICE

FLOOR SHEATHING NAILING AT
6" MAXIMUM ON CENTER TO
JOIST WITH HOLD-DOWN

FLOOR JOIST

DECK JOIST

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm.

FIGURE R507.9.2(1)
DECK ATTACHMENT FOR LATERAL LOADS

NOTE:
THIS DETAIL IS APPLICABLE WHERE FLOOR JOISTS ARE PARALLEL TO DECK JOISTS.

SHEATHING

SIDING

FLASHING FOR WATER TIGHTNESS

DECKING

APPROVED JOIST HANGERS

2x LEDGER WITH FASTENERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH TABLE R507.2

HOLD-DOWN DEVICE MIN 750 LB. CAPACITY AT 4 LOCATIONS, EVENLY DISTRIBUTED ALONG DECK AND ONE WITHIN 24" OF EACH END OF THE LEDGER. HOLD-DOWN DEVICES SHALL FULLY ENGAGE DECK JOIST PER HOLD-DOWN MANUFACTURER.

A FULLY THREADED ³/₈" DIAMETER LAG SCREW PREDRILLED W/ MIN. 3" PENETRATION TO CENTER OF TOP PLATE, STUDS, OR HEADER.

2" MIN.

FLOOR JOISTS

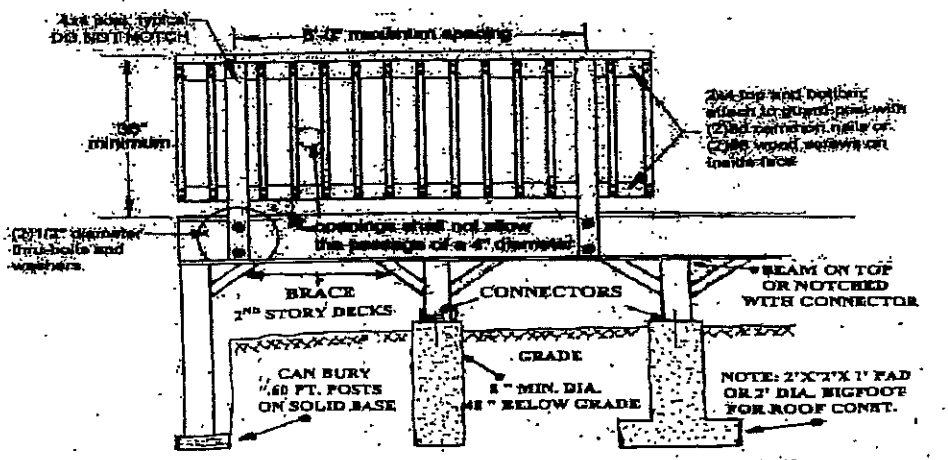For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm, 1 foot = 304.8 mm.

FIGURE R507.9.2(2)
DECK ATTACHMENT FOR LATERAL LOADS

TOWN OF COLONIE BUILDING DEPT.-DECK HANDOUT
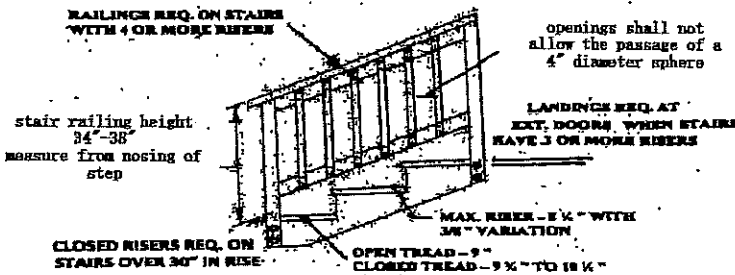
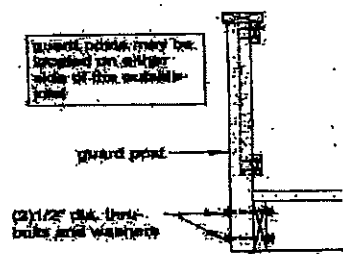* ALL LUMBER PRESSURE TREATED *
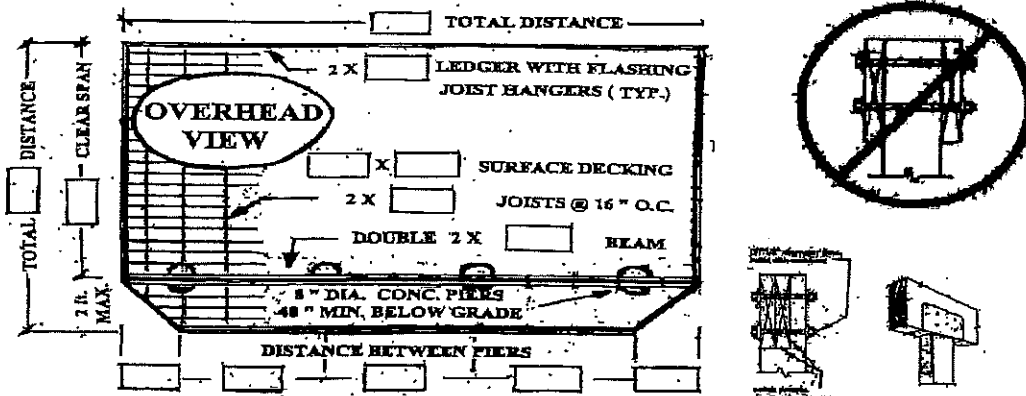
DECK FRAMING PLAN & PIER LAYOUT   BEAM ATTACHMENT

DECK CROSS SECTION CONSTRUCTION & PIER DETAIL

TYPICAL STAIR LAYOUT   GUARD POST ATTACHMENT