

DECK PERMIT



General Guidelines

- A deck is considered an unroofed platform.
- All decks require a building permit from the Development Services Department.
- Decks 30 inches or more above the ground are required to meet all building setbacks for side & rear yards.
- A guardrail is required if deck height is 30 inches or more above grade.
- Compliance with any limitations of materials by restrictive covenants is the responsibility of the property owner.



Permits

- A permit is required by the City of Waukee before the construction or alteration of any deck.
- Deck permit fees are currently \$80.

Process

- Permits are submitted online at:
[Building - Residential Covered/Uncovered Deck - ViewPoint Cloud \(opengov.com\)](https://opengov.com/Building-Residential-Covered-Uncovered-Deck-ViewPoint-Cloud)
- Submit a completed application with a copy of a site plan indicating the following:
 - Existing structures
 - North arrow
 - Dimensions of any additions or accessory structure (length, width, height)
 - Distance from property lines for any addition or accessory structure
 - Easements
 - Water meter location
 - Electrical service location (specify overhead or underground)
- Submit the fillable diagram included in this packet showing all dimensions and spacings.
- You will be notified via email notification of review questions, approval and any fees due.
- Once the permit has been approved and paid for, you may begin your project.
- Inspections are required for deck footings and framing. Once deck is fully constructed, a final inspection is required. Other inspections may be required as determined by the building inspector. Inspections can be scheduled by calling 515-978-9533.1

Waukee Development Services Department

204 W. Hickman Road • Waukee, IA 50263 • 515-978-9533 • www.Waukee.org/BuildingPermits

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Deck Construction Drawings Must Include:

1. Heights above grade
2. Supports
3. Size and number of holes
4. Guardrails (required if the deck is 30" or more above grade. Guardrail must be 36" tall with 4" spacing.)
5. Handrails (required if the deck has more than three rises)
6. Spans

Determine the Size & Number of Holes:

If free-standing:

$$\frac{\text{Total Sq. Ft. of Deck}}{\text{Number of Holes}} = \text{Sq. Ft. to be Displaced}$$

If attached:

$$\frac{1/2 \times \text{Total Sq. Ft. of Deck}}{\text{Number of Holes}} = \text{Sq. Ft. to be Displaced}$$

- Compare to the list at right; if square feet falls between listed figures, round up to the next size.
- Holes should be dug at least 42" deep (frost footing) with a minimum 4" concrete pad.

Deck Displacement

- (1) 6" hole = 8 square feet of deck
- (1) 8" hole = 14 square feet of deck
- (1) 10" hole = 22 square feet of deck
- (1) 12" hole = 32 square feet of deck
- (1) 14" hole = 44 square feet of deck
- (1) 16" hole = 56 square feet of deck
- (1) 18" hole = 72 square feet of deck

Spans:

Deck thickness required:

24" on center = 2"

16" on center = 1 1/4"

12" on center = 3/4"

- All fasteners must be galvanized.
- All load-bearing bolts and lags must be a minimum of 1/2".
- Other approved equivalent

Typical Deck Joist Spans

Deck Joist Spans for Common Lumber Species (ft-in)

Species	Size	Spacing of Deck Joists with NO Cantilever (inches)		
		12	16	24
Southern Pine	2x6	9-11	9-0	7-7
	2x8	13-1	11-10	9-8
	2x10	16-2	14-0	11-5
	2x12	18-0	16-6	13-6
Douglas Fir-Larch, Hem-Fir, Spruce-Pine-Fir	2x6	9-6	8-8	7-2
	2x8	12-6	11-1	9-1
	2x10	15-8	13-7	11-1
	2x12	18-0	15-9	12-10

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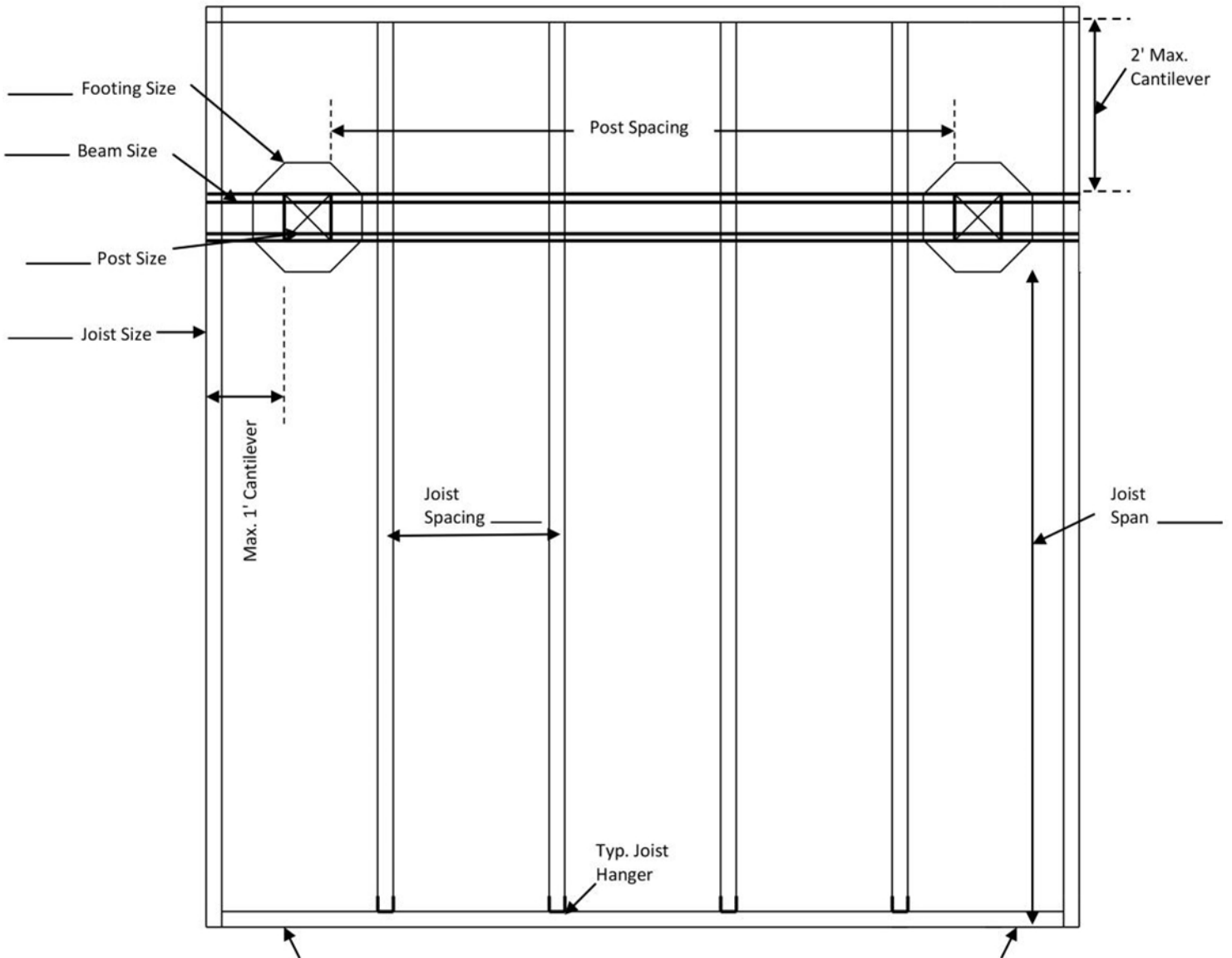


Deck Beam Span Lengths

Deck Beam Spans for Common Lumber Species (ft-in)

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

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2X Ledger attached to house framing structure and/or foundation, provide flashing.

_____ Height from the ground to the top of the floor of the deck at the highest point