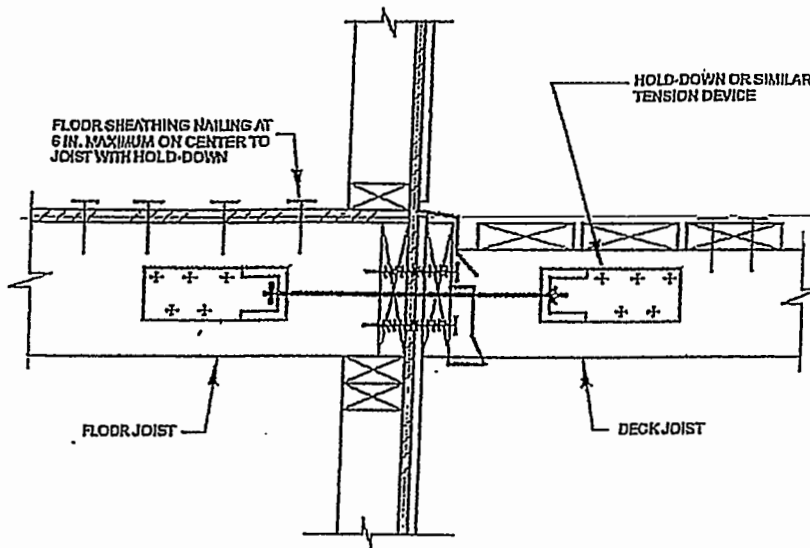


RESIDENTIAL DECK CONSTRUCTION NOTES

2015 IRC

- **Attachment to House.** 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 use of toenails or nails subject to withdrawal. (R507.1)
- **Deck Ledger.** Deck ledgers shall not be supported on stone or masonry veneer. (R507.2.1)
- **Bearing.** The ends of each joist beam shall have not less than 1.5 inches of bearing on wood or metal and not less than 3 inches on concrete or masonry for the entire width of the beam. (R507.7)
- **Deck Lateral Load Connection.** Deck attachment for lateral loads shall be installed in one of the following two ways (R507.2.4), or the deck shall be made freestanding. Method 1: Lateral load hold-down tension devices shall be installed in at least two locations per deck, within 24 inches of each end of the deck (see attached Figure R507.2.3(1)). Method 2: Lateral load hold-down tension devices shall be installed in at least four locations per deck (see attached figure R507.2.3(2)).
- **Deck Beams.** Beam piles shall be fastened with two rows of 10d nails minimum at 16 inches on center along each edge. (R507.6)
- **Deck Posts to Deck Beam.** Deck beams shall be attached to deck posts by mechanical means capable of resisting lateral displacement. All bolts shall have washers under the head and bolt. (R507.7.1)
- **Deck Posts.** The maximum height for 4x4 or 4x6 deck posts is 8 feet and 6x6 posts is 14 feet measured to the underside of the beam. (R507.8)
- **Stairway Width.** Stairs shall not be less than 36 inches in clear width. (R311.7.1)
- **Treads & Risers.** The maximum riser height shall be 8 ¼ inches and the minimum tread depth shall be 9 inches. The greatest riser height and the greatest tread depth shall not exceed the smallest by more than 3/8 inches within the entire flight of stairs. (PA UCC)
- **Handrails.** Handrails shall be provided on at least one side of each stairway containing four or more risers. The handrail must be continuous the full length of the stairway and be mounted 34 inches to 38 inches above the nosing of the treads. The ends of the handrails must be returned or terminate in newel posts or safety terminals. (R311.7.8)
- **Handgrip Size.** Handrails shall have a circular cross section with a diameter of between 1 ¼ inches and 2 inches. (R311.7.8.3)
- **Guard.** Decks where the walking surface is located more than 30" above finished grade shall have guards not less than 36 inches in height. Openings within the guards shall be such that a 4 inch sphere shall not pass through (4 3/8 inches where located on the sides of stair treads). (R312)
- **Safety Glazing.** Safety glazing in window glass is required when the existing house wall acts as a barrier to adjacent stairs and landings. Application of safety glazing film to glass that was not originally treated is acceptable to meet this requirement. (The use of safety glazing film only applies to existing windows). (R308.4)

2015 IRC Lateral Load Detail (Method 1)



For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm.

FIGURE R507.2.3 (1) DECK ATTACHMENT FOR LATERAL LOADS

2015 IRC Lateral Load Detail (Method 2)

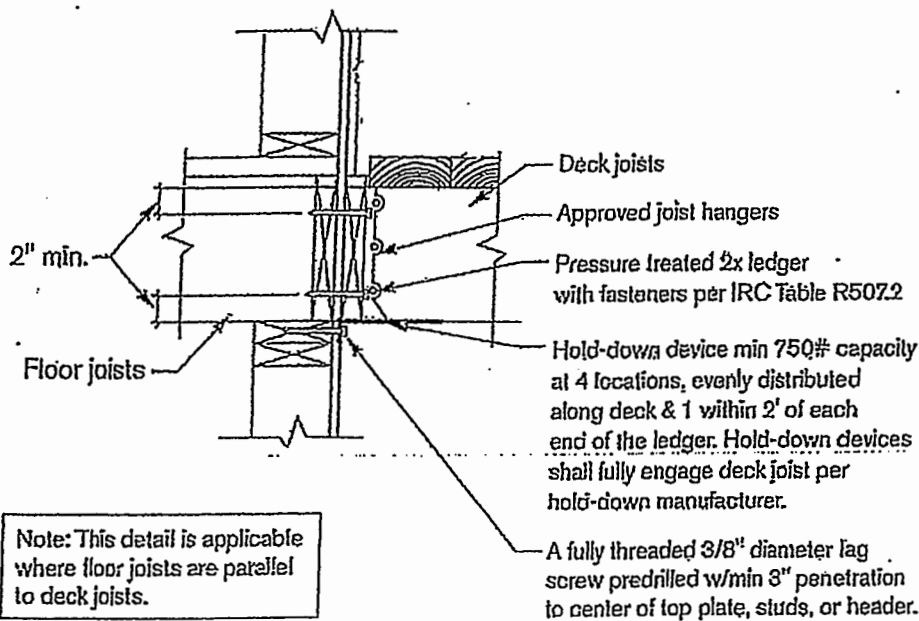


FIGURE R507.2.3 (2) DECK ATTACHMENT FOR LATERAL LOADS