



City of Marine City  
Building Department  
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# Wood Deck Building Guide and Construction Requirements

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For additional resources please visit the City of Marine City website at [www.cityofmarinecity.org](http://www.cityofmarinecity.org)





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# Wood Deck Construction Requirements

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The City of Marine City requires compliance with all outlined construction requirements and an **approved building permit** on file with the City to proceed with the construction of a porch or deck.

## CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS

- A completed Building Permit Application must be submitted to the Building Department
- All wood shall be approved pressure preservative treated.
- Post holes shall be a minimum depth of 42 inches below grade if attached to a house.
- Ledger board must be properly flashed and properly through bolted to the home.
- Post/Beam connection must be through bolted.
- All posts shall be a minimum size of 4 x 4.
- If the deck height is 30 inches or more above grade, a guardrail is required.
- A handrail is required if a stairway has four or more risers.
- Joist/Beam tables are provided along with sample details of stairways, guardrails, and handrails.

## ZONING R – 1

Setbacks: Front - 25 feet  
Rear - 40 feet  
Side - 8 feet



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# Wood Deck Beam Size & Beam/Post Spacing Table

## BEAM SIZE AND BEAM/POST SPACING TABLE

This table can be used to determine the type, size and spacing of the beams for your deck. An example is provided below to help you understand how to use the table. Allowable spans for beams are based on southern pine #2 or better.

Beam Size (B)	Beam Spacing in Feet (A)								
	4 ft	5 ft	6 ft	7 ft	8 ft	9 ft	10 ft	11 ft	12 ft
(2) 2" x 6"	7' 0"	6' 0"							
(2) 2" x 8"	9' 0"	8' 0"	7' 0"	7' 0"	6' 0"	6' 0"			
(2) 2" x 10"	11' 0"	10' 0"	9' 0"	8' 0"	8' 0"	7' 0"	7' 0"	6' 0"	6' 0"
(3) 2" x 8"	11' 0"	10' 0"	9' 0"	9' 0"	8' 0"	8' 0"	7' 0"	7' 0"	7' 0"
(2) 2" x 12"	13' 0"	12' 0"	10' 0"	10' 0"	9' 0"	8' 0"	8' 0"	7' 0"	7' 0"
(3) 2" x 10"	14' 0"	13' 0"	12' 0"	11' 0"	10' 0"	10' 0"	9' 0"	9' 0"	8' 0"
(3) 2" x 12"	16' 0"	15' 0"	14' 0"	13' 0"	12' 0"	11' 0"	11' 0"	10' 0"	10' 0"
	Post Spacing (C)								

The beam size (B) is determined by the beam spacing (A) and the post spacing (C). If you choose a beam spacing (A) of 6', refer to the Beam Size and Beam/Post Spacing Table above and locate the beam spacing (A) of 6' at the top of the table. Then follow the column down until you reach the post spacing you desire, ie 7'. Next, follow the table to the left to determine the minimum beam size required which, for the above instance, would be (2) 2" x 8". Therefore, if you have a beam spacing (A) of 6' and post spacing (C) of 7', then (2) 2" x 8" beams are the minimum required.

Example: If beam spacing (A) = 9' and post spacing (C) = 7' then beam size (B) = (2) 2" x 10"

**Note:** The table and examples above indicate the maximum beam and post spacing, and the minimum beam sizes required for a deck designed with a 40pound per square foot live load as required by the building code. If you desire a more rigid construction you can reduce the beam and post spacing and/or increase the beam size. The table above is based on the design criteria in the National Design Specification 1997, AF & POA, referenced in the MRC.