

# DECK CALCULATOR



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## Deck Boards (5/4" x 6" or 2" x 6")

Deck Size	Quantity Required	Length Required	# Screws Required
8' x 8'	19	8'	252
8' x 10'	19	10'	324
10' x 10'	23	10'	396
10' x 12'	23	12'	440
12' x 12'	28	12'	540
12' x 14'	28	14'	648
14' x 14'	32	14'	744
14' x 16'	32	16'	806
16' x 16'	36	16'	910

## Structure (2" x 8" or 2" x 10")

Joists	Length Required	Joist Hangers	Extremity & Beams	Length Required	Posts
7	8'	10	4	8'	2
9	8'	14	4	10'	2
9	10'	14	4	10'	2
10	10'	16	4	12'	3
10	12'	16	4	12'	3
12	12'	20	4	14'	3
12	14'	20	6	14'	6
13	14'	22	6	16'	6
13	16'	22	6	16'	6

Note: Calculations reflected do include waste and are designed for an attached deck.



# BUILDING A DECK? HERE ARE SOME TIPS



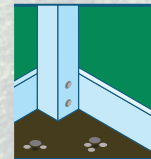
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When planning your deck, consider the safety of your family and guests. Careful material selection, design, installation, plus periodic inspection and maintenance are key to long-term performance and structural stability. Contact your local building department for any specific requirements and guidelines they may have, and find out if a building permit is required before you build your deck.

**1 LEDGER.** The placement of the ledger determines the level of the deck floor, so be sure it is positioned at the correct height and is horizontal. When positioning the ledger, don't forget to allow for the thickness of the decking which will be above the ledger level. Improperly attached ledger boards are a major cause of deck collapses. Anchor it securely to the house using bolts, depending on the composition of the wall. Note: The deck must be structurally supported on all sides.

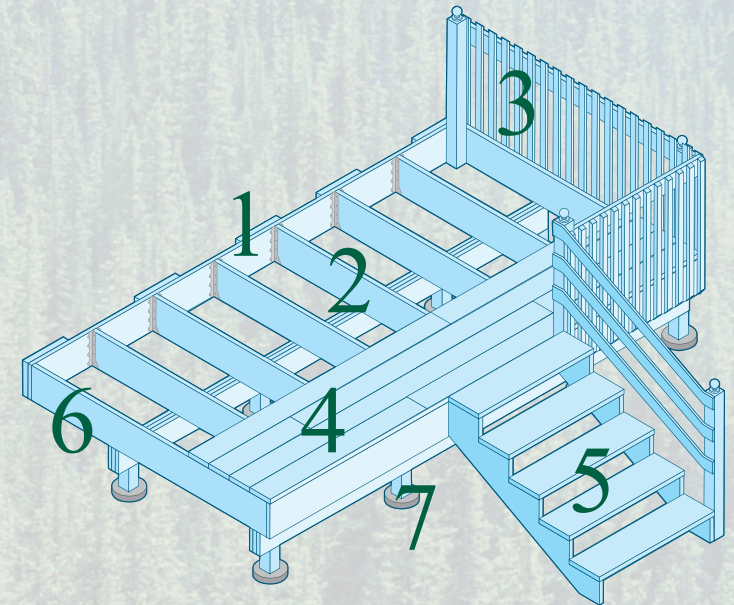
**2 JOISTS.** Joists support the decking. Place joists a maximum of 16" from centre to centre. Use joist hangers if needed for extra support. Shorter spans between joists will help to minimize warping and twisting of deck boards as they dry. Also avoid designs with long cantilevers unsecured at one end; check with your local building code department on the maximum cantilever allowed.

**3 RAILINGS.** Install posts for railing. These can be a continuation of the posts which support the deck; or, railing posts may be bolted to the outside joist or joist extensions. Using the deck posts provides sturdy railing support. Intermittent posts, or spacer posts, can be used between the main support posts. Cross members can be nailed to posts at desired height. The aesthetics of your deck are most obvious in your choice of a railing. Many options are available to you; make sure you choose a design that meets your building codes.

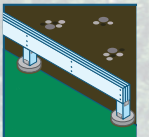


**4 DECKING.** Separate deck boards as follows to allow for expansion and contraction. If heavy and wet, separate boards no more than 1/16" as some shrinkage will occur. If light and dry, separate boards about 1/4" to allow for swelling. Screws take longer to drive than nails, but hold boards more securely and will allow for easier removal if necessary. If a board is bowed, install it with the crown up. Gravity and the weight of people and furniture will flatten it.

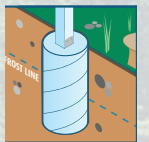
**5 STAIRS.** Purchasing pre-cut step stringers eliminates difficult angle cutting and makes stair construction easier.



**6 BEAMS.** Use three 3" nails at intervals of 12" to 16" to make the beam. Use 3" framing angles to attach the beam to the posts.



**7 POSTS.** Posts can be secured to a concrete pier or set in the ground. Check with a code official to decide which method is best for you. Footings should extend below the frost line.



This information is meant as general guidance. Check with local building codes before beginning your project.