



THE BOONE COUNTY BUILDING DEPARTMENT

2950 WASHINGTON STREET • P.O. BOX 900 • BURLINGTON, KENTUCKY 41005
(859) 334-2218 • FAX (859) 334-3137

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR DECKS

Address of Project _____ Application # _____
Applicant's Name _____
(printed) _____ Signature _____

This document, when signed and initialed, will become part of the application for permit. The requirements on this document will take precedence over any discrepancies within the documents. All items shall be checked, and the signature of the applicant above indicates agreement with all of the stated requirements.

The following items are supplemental construction notes provided by, the Boone County Building Department based on the minimum requirements of the 2013 Kentucky Residential Code Section 507.2.1, 502.2.2.

- All exposed lumber to be pressure –treated for exterior use.
- Columns and post shall be at least 30" below grade for all decks attached to house.
- Decks more than 4' ft off the ground shall have 4 x 6 or 6 x 6 columns.
- Footers are not required for freestanding decks less than 30 inches off the ground when attached to concrete pedestal; deck must be tied down diagonally to pedestals.
- A 36' inch guardrail shall be installed in all areas where the top of the deck floor (or deck stair) is 30" inches or greater above the adjacent finish grade.
- Stairs shall have handrails and guards. Handrails shall be continuous and, at the top and bottom of the stair, terminate into a post (or return to a wall). Handrails shall be graspable or a finger recess area will be provided.
- All stairs shall be minimum 36" inch wide and have minimum 9" inch tread and maximum 8 ¼" inch risers. Stairs with open risers shall be constructed in a manner that does not allow the passage of a 4" inch diameter sphere.
- Illumination shall be provided for the exterior door landing and the full length of the stair along with the associated landings.
- Guardrails and handrails shall withstand a single concentrated 200 pounds per sq. ft. applied in any direction at any point along the top.
- All guards shall be spaced no more than 4" inches apart.
- Placement of lag screws or bolts in deck ledgers: The lag screws or bolts shall be placed 2 inches in from the bottom or top of the deck ledgers and between 2 and 5 inches in from the ends. The lag screws or bolts shall be staggered from the top to the bottom along the horizontal run of the deck ledger.
- Girders supporting deck joists shall not be supported on deck ledgers or band joists. Deck ledgers shall not be supported on stone or masonry veneer unless specifically designed by a design professional.
- Flashing: Approved corrosion-resistant flashing shall be installed at all of the following locations: Where exterior porches, decks or stairs attach to a wall or floor assembly of wood frame construction.
 - Shall not attach deck to bay area or fireplace.
 - Shall not attach deck to an overhang of a cantilever.
- Used materials, equipment and devices shall not be reused unless approved by the Building Official.
- Fuel burning equipment air intake and exhaust: ducts shall terminate in an unobstructed space allowing free movement of combustion air to the appliances.

Combustion air intake openings located on the exterior of a building shall have the lowest side of such openings located not less than 12 inches vertically from the adjoining finished ground level.
- The minimum headroom in all parts of the stairway shall not be less than 6'8".
- Glazing is required in these areas: adjacent to stairway and landings and ramps within 36 inches horizontally of a walking surface when the exposed surface of the glazing is less than 60 inches above the plane of the adjacent walking surface.
- All pre-engineered structural wood connectors shall be installed in strict accordance with the manufacturer's specifications and installation instructions (including proper fastener type and size).
- If deck is attached to I-Joist system the attachment shall be engineered.

Gary W. Moore
County Judge-Executive



Jerry Noran
Chief Building Inspector

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Deck Dimensions: _____ Footing size and Depth: _____

Height of deck from ground level: _____

Size of Post: _____ Spacing _____ Size Beam: _____

Joist Size: _____

Spacing of Joist: _____ Joist Span: _____

Size of Decking: _____

Method of Attachment to House: _____

Width between Guards: _____ Width of Stairway Treads: _____

Height of Stairway Risers: _____

DISCLAIMER: This worksheet highlights specific sections of the 2013 Kentucky Residential Code in order to facilitate plan submission. It is not intended to be a complete summary of that document.