

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.
- The price of a deck permit is \$80.

Process

- Obtain and fill out a general permit application from the Development Services Department at Waukee City Hall or online at www.Waukee.org/BuildingPermits.
- 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.
- After an application and all required information have been submitted, the department has 12 business days to review the application.
- You will be notified by telephone or email of approval and any fees.
- 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.

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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 connectors may be accepted.

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