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SECTION R507 DECKS

R507.1 Decks.

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 the use of toenails or nails subject to withdrawal. Where positive connection to the primary building structure cannot be verified during inspection, decks shall be self-supporting. For decks with cantilevered framing members, connections to exterior walls or other framing members, shall be designed and constructed to resist uplift resulting from the full live load specified in Table R301.5 acting on the cantilevered portion of the deck.

R507.2 Deck ledger connection to band joist.

For decks supporting a total design load of 50 pounds per square foot (2394 Pa) [40 pounds per square foot (1915 Pa) live load plus 10 pounds per square foot (479 Pa) dead load], the connection between a deck ledger of pressure-preservative-treated Southern Pine, incised pressure-preservative-treated Hem-Fir or *approved* decay-resistant species, and a 2-inch (51 mm) nominal lumber band joist bearing on a sill plate or wall plate shall be constructed with $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch (12.7 mm) lag screws or bolts with washers in accordance with Table R507.2. Lag screws, bolts and washers shall be hot-dipped galvanized or stainless steel.

TABLE R507.2 FASTENER SPACING FOR A SOUTHERN PINE OR HEM-FIR DECK LEDGER AND A 2-INCH-NOMINAL SOLID-SAWN SPRUCE-PINE-FIR BAND JOIST^{c, f, g} (Deck live load = 40 psf, deck dead load = 10 psf)

JOIST SPAN	6' and less	6' 1" to 8'	8' 1" to 10'	10' 1" to 12'	12' 1" to 14'	14' 1" to 16'	16' 1" to 18'
Connection details	On-center spacing of fasteners^{d, e}						
$\frac{1}{2}$ inch diameter lag screw with $\frac{15}{32}$ inch maximum sheathing ^a	30	23	18	15	13	11	10
$\frac{1}{2}$ inch diameter bolt with $\frac{15}{32}$ inch maximum sheathing	36	36	34	29	24	21	19
$\frac{1}{2}$ inch diameter bolt with $\frac{15}{32}$ inch maximum sheathing and $\frac{1}{2}$ inch stacked washers ^{b, h}	36	36	29	24	21	18	16

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm, 1 foot = 304.8 mm. 1 pound per square foot = 0.0479 kPa.

a. The tip of the lag screw shall fully extend beyond the inside face of the band joist.

b. The maximum gap between the face of the ledger board and face of the wall sheathing shall be $\frac{1}{2}$ inch.

c. Ledgers shall be flashed to prevent water from contacting the house band joist.

d. Lag screws and bolts shall be staggered in accordance with [Section R507.2.1](#).

- e. Deck ledger shall be minimum 2×8 pressure-preservative-treated No. 2 grade lumber, or other approved materials as established by standard engineering practice.
- f. When solid-sawn pressure-preservative-treated deck ledgers are attached to a minimum 1-inch-thick engineered wood product (structural composite lumber, laminated veneer lumber or wood structural panel band joist), the ledger attachment shall be designed in accordance with accepted engineering practice.
- g. A minimum $1 \times 9\frac{1}{2}$ Douglas Fir laminated veneer lumber rimboard shall be permitted in lieu of the 2-inch nominal band joist.
- h. Wood structural panel sheathing, gypsum board sheathing or foam sheathing not exceeding 1 inch in thickness shall be permitted. The maximum distance between the face of the ledger board and the face of the band joist shall be 1 inch.

R507.2.1 Placement of lag screws or bolts in deck ledgers and band joists.

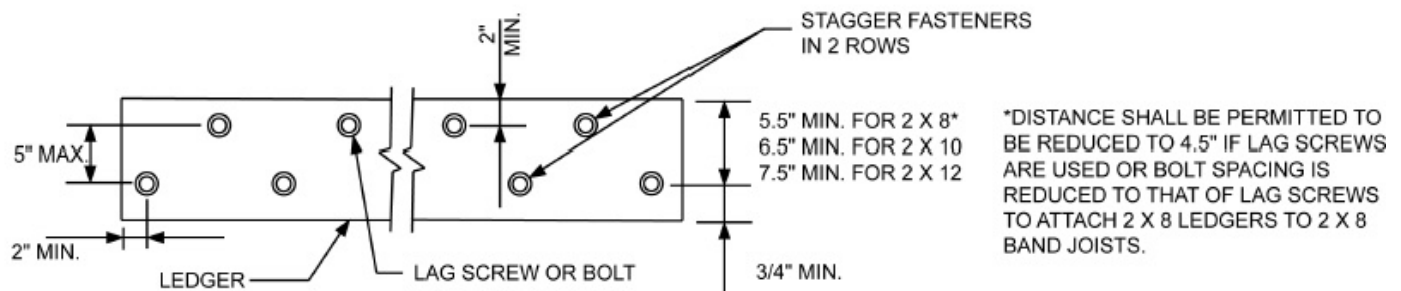
The lag screws or bolts in deck ledgers and band joists shall be placed in accordance with Table R507.2.1 and Figures R507.2.1(1) and R507.2.1(2).

TABLE 507.2.1 PLACEMENT OF LAG SCREWS AND BOLTS IN DECK LEDGERS AND BAND JOISTS

MINIMUM END AND EDGE DISTANCES AND SPACING BETWEEN ROWS				
	TOP EDGE	BOTTOM EDGE	ENDS	ROW SPACING
Ledger ^a	2 inches ^d	$\frac{1}{4}$ inch	2 inches ^b	$1\frac{5}{8}$ inches ^b
Band Joist ^c	$\frac{3}{4}$ inch	2 inches	2 inches ^b	$1\frac{5}{8}$ inches ^b

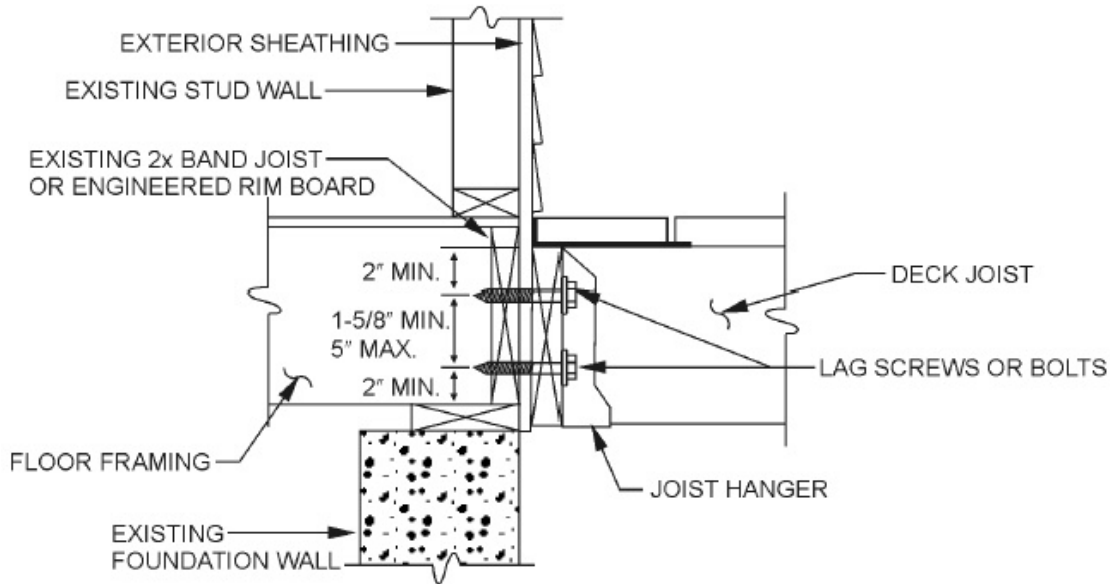
For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm.

- a. Lag screws or bolts shall be staggered from the top to the bottom along the horizontal run of the deck ledger in accordance with Figure R507.2.1(1).
- b. Maximum 5 inches.
- c. For engineered rim joists, the manufacturer's recommendations shall govern.
- d. The minimum distance from bottom row of lag screws or bolts to the top edge of the ledger shall be in accordance with Figure R507.2.1(1).



For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm.

FIGURE R507.2.1(1) PLACEMENT OF LAG SCREWS AND BOLTS IN LEDGERS



For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm.

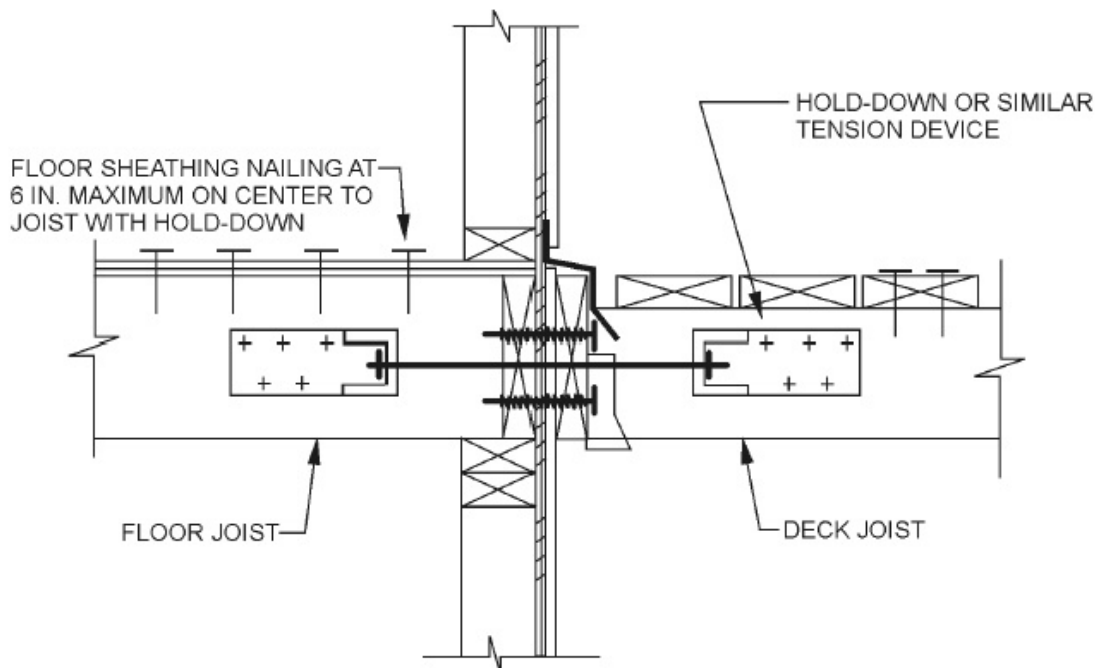
FIGURE R507.2.1(2) PLACEMENT OF LAG SCREWS AND BOLTS IN BAND JOISTS

R507.2.2 Alternate deck ledger connections.

Deck ledger connections not conforming to Table R507.2 shall be designed in accordance with accepted engineering practice. 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.

R507.2.3 Deck lateral load connection.

The lateral load connection required by [Section R507.1](#) shall be permitted to be in accordance with Figure R507.2.3. Where the lateral load connection is provided in accordance with Figure R507.2.3, hold-down tension devices shall be installed in not less than two locations per deck, and each device shall have an allowable stress design capacity of not less than 1500 pounds (6672 N).



For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm.

FIGURE 507.2.3 DECK ATTACHMENT FOR LATERAL LOADS**R507.3 Wood/plastic composites.**

Wood/plastic composites used in exterior deck boards, stair treads, handrails and guardrail systems shall bear a label indicating the required performance levels and demonstrating compliance with the provisions of ASTM D 7032.

R507.3.1 Installation of wood/plastic composites.

Wood/plastic composites shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

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