



---

# CORRECTING A SERIOUS DEFICIT TO BUILDING SAFETY

Reinforcement of Floor  
Systems Supporting Guards

# Table of Contents

# CONTENTS

- 03. **EARLY ADOPTION**  
Why Reinforcement of Floor Systems  
Supporting Guards is needed NOW!
- 04. **2024 INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE**
- 05. **HOW TO SPECIFY**
- 08. **FRAMING DETAILS \***  
Floor Edge Roll Bracing
- 11. **ENGINEERING CALCULATIONS \***  
Edge Member Torsion Calculations
- 12. **ENGINEERING CALCULATIONS \***  
Connection Calculations

\*SUBSTANTIATION AS SUBMITTED FOR ICC APPROVAL OF R502.11 IN THE 2024 INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE (IRC).

## WHY REINFORCEMENT OF FLOOR SYSTEMS SUPPORTING GUARDS IS NEEDED NOW!

Stairbuilders and Manufacturers Association (SMA) members from across the nation recognized a serious deficit in the building code. The edge of floor structures, particularly those constructed of engineered joists and truss components were rotating when the top of the guard assembly was loaded in final inspection. A sound floor structure that could support the guard system when loaded was not provided even though the floor system was code compliant.

In the fall of 2021, the SMA formed an industry wide task group to address the problem. The task group included design professionals, truss and I-joist manufacturers, builders, hardware manufacturers, railing fabricators, and stairbuilders. A year later they successfully changed the International Residential Code (IRC) to require edge of floor details that can support guard assemblies. This change is now part of the 2024 IRC (full text below). It is scheduled to be published late in 2023 but will not be effective until adopted by local jurisdictions. **Unless we act NOW, this problem will not be resolved for 5 or more years.**

### WHY WAIT?

The code is but a minimum standard of safety that can be exceeded. Your earnest effort in adopting this corrective action will assure wood floor structures supporting guards are sound, improving building safety for all.

The SMA has developed resources to aid you in promoting adoption of these important structural changes to floor framing NOW. In addition to the 2024 IRC requirements this document contains specifications and details for inclusion in your next project. The supporting engineering calculations are also included for both torsional checks of the floor edge member and the framing connections that resist rotation resulting from loads on the guard assembly. Educational resources for design, building construction, and building safety professionals are available at [stairways.org](https://www.stairways.org). Contact [your local SMA member](#) or the [SMA office](#) to schedule a presentation, register for a webinar or download specifications to include in your next project.

The SMA has resolved to encourage early adoption of the 2024 IRC requirements for floor framing supporting guards. These requirements correct a serious oversight in the structural design of floor systems supporting guards and greatly improve building safety. Together the building community can emphasize to local building enforcement jurisdictions the need for early adoption. Please contact the SMA office to learn how you can participate in bringing early adoption to your community.

**R502.11 Floor framing supporting guards.** The framing at the open edge of a floor supporting a required guard assembly shall be constructed in accordance with Sections R502.11.1 or R502.11.2 for guard assemblies not exceeding 44 inches (1118mm) in height or shall be designed in accordance with accepted engineering practice to support the guard assembly. Where trusses and I-joists are used as edge framing members supporting guards, the effects of the guard loads shall be considered in the design of the edge member.

**R502.11.1 Conventional edge framing.** Where a roll brace is aligned with each guard post, the framing at the edge of the floor shall consist of a solid or built-up member of lumber, structural glued laminated timber, or structural composite lumber having a minimum net width of 3 inches (76mm) and a minimum net depth of 9-1/4 inches (235 mm) and shall be braced to resist rotation by roll bracing as described in Section R502.11.3.

**R502.11.2 Timber edge framing.** Where a roll brace is not aligned with each guard post, the framing at the edge of the floor shall consist of a minimum 6x10 sawn timber or a minimum 5-1/8 inch x 9-1/4 inch (130 mm x 235 mm) structural glued laminated timber and shall be braced to resist rotation by roll bracing as described in Section R502.11.3 at intervals of 48 inches (1219 mm) or less.

**R502.11.3 Roll bracing.** Each roll brace shall be a joist or blocking matching the depth of the edge member and extending perpendicular to the edge member a minimum of 16 inches (406 mm) from the edge. Blocking shall have end connections with a minimum of six (6) – 16d common nails. Floor sheathing shall be continuous for a minimum of 24 inches (610 mm) from the edge and shall be fastened to each roll brace with a minimum of twelve (12) – 10d common nails and shall be fastened to the edge member with a minimum of twelve (12) – 10d common nails within 12 inches (305 mm) of the roll brace.



# SECTION 06 10 ROUGH CARPENTRY

**Note to Specifier:** This section is based on adopted International Residential Code (IRC) structural requirements for floor systems at edges supporting guards not exceeding 44". Section R502.11 is included in the 2024 IRC code.

**For additional information contact:**

Stairbuilders and Manufacturers Association (SMA) | PO Box 448, Dalton, Ohio 44618  
www.stairways.org | Phone: 877-500-5759

**Note to Specifier:** Delete any information below in Parts 1,2, or 3 which is not required or relevant for the project; add others as required.

## 1. General

### A. Section Includes

1. Floor Framing Supporting Guards (R502.11, IRC)
  - a. Conventional Edge Framing (R502.11.1, IRC)
  - b. Timber Edge Framing (R502.11.2, IRC)
  - c. Roll Bracing (R502.11.3, IRC)

### B. Related Sections

1. 05 52 Metal Railings
2. 05 73 Decorative Metal Railings
3. 06 43 Wood Stairs and Railings
4. 06 63 Plastic Railings
5. 06 81 Composite Railings
6. 08 80 Glazing

### C. References

1. 2024 IRC Codes
  - a. R502.11 Floor framing supporting guards
  - b. R502.11.1 Conventional edge framing
  - c. R502.11.2 Timber edge framing
  - d. R502.11.3 Roll bracing
  - e. R301.5 Live load
2. 2021 IRC Code
  - a. R301.5 Live load
3. Stairbuilders and Manufacturers Association (SMA)
  - a. [www.stairways.org/guard-connections](http://www.stairways.org/guard-connections)

HOW TO SPECIFY



## 2. Requirements

**Note to specifier:** This specification provides for the construction of the edge of floor systems that will resist the transfer of the load applied to the top of the guard as required in the 2021 and 2024 editions of the IRC.

- A. Guard requirements.
  - 1. Guard height shall not exceed 44".
  - 2. Guards shall be constructed to support a 200 lb single concentrated load applied at any point along the top of the guard, in the vertical downward direction and in the horizontal direction away from the walking surface. Loads are not applied concurrently.
- B. Floor framing supporting guards (R502.11)
  - 1. The framing at the open edge of a floor supporting a required guard assembly shall be constructed in accordance with Sections R502.11.1 or R502.11.2 for guard assemblies not exceeding 44 inches (1118mm) in height or shall be designed in accordance with accepted engineering practice to support the guard assembly. Where trusses and I-joists are used as edge framing members supporting guards, the effects of the guard loads shall be considered in the design of the edge member
- C. Conventional edge framing (R502.11.1)
  - 1. Where a roll brace is aligned with each guard post, the framing at the edge of the floor shall consist of a solid or built-up member of lumber, structural glued laminated timber, or structural composite lumber having a minimum net width of 3 inches (76mm) and a minimum net depth of 9-1/4 inches (235 mm) and shall be braced to resist rotation by roll bracing as described in Section R502.11.3.
- D. Timber edge framing (R502.11.2)
  - 1. Where a roll brace is NOT aligned with each guard post, the framing at the edge of the floor shall consist of a solid or built-up member of lumber, structural glued laminated timber, or structural composite lumber having a minimum net width of 3 inches (76mm) and a minimum net depth of 9-1/4 inches (235 mm) and shall be braced to resist rotation by roll bracing as described in Section R502.11.3.t.
- E. Roll Bracing
  - 1. Each roll brace shall be a joist or blocking matching the depth of the edge member and extending perpendicular to the edge member a minimum of 16 inches (406 mm) from the edge. Blocking shall have end connections with a minimum of six (6) – 16d common nails. Floor sheathing shall be continuous for a minimum of 24 inches (610 mm) from the edge and shall be fastened to each roll brace with a minimum of twelve (12) – 10d common nails and shall be fastened to the edge member with a minimum of twelve (12) – 10d common nails within 12 inches (305 mm) of the roll brace.

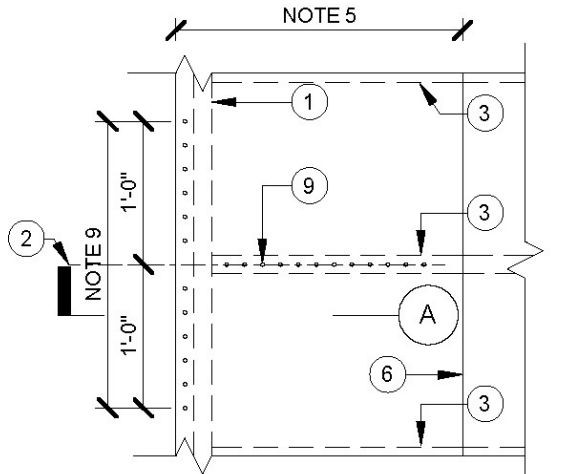


## 3. Execution

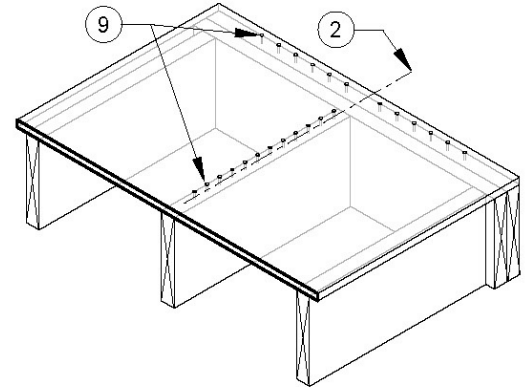
- A. At ALL floor edge conditions supporting guard assemblies not exceeding 44" in height.
  - 1. Floor framing supporting top or side mounted guard posts shall have roll bracing.
    - a. Roll brace material shall be solid or built-up member of lumber, structural glued laminated timber, or structural composite lumber.
  - 2. Floor sheathing shall be continuous and without a joint parallel to floor edge minimum of 24" from the floor edge, typ. Sheathing shall be fastened with,
    - a. 12 – 10d common (3" x 0.148") nails through floor sheathing into edge beams at each roll brace, typ.
    - b. 12 – 10d common (3" x 0.148") nails through floor sheathing into the roll brace, typ.
- B. At floor edge conditions where roll brace is aligned with guard post connections
  - 1. Each roll brace shall be a joist or blocking matching the depth of the edge member (rim) and extending perpendicular to the edge member a minimum of 16" from the edge.
  - 2. Edge member (rim) shall be minimum 3" net width and minimum 9 ¼" in height.
  - 3. Typical joist (nominal or engineered lumber) shall be minimum 9 ¼" in height.
- C. At floor edge conditions where roll braces do not align with guard post connections.
  - 1. Edge member shall be minimum 6x10 sawn timber or minimum 5 1/8" x 9 ¼" structural glue laminated timber.
  - 2. Roll bracing shall be installed perpendicular to edge member and
    - a. Shall be fastened with 6 – 16d common (3 ½" x 0.162") nails staggered and toenailed through roll brace and into edge member, typ.
    - b. Shall be secured to a roll brace (parallel to edge) to resist rotation.
    - c. Roll brace shall be secured to end of blocking with 6 – 16d common (3 ½" x 0.162") nails, nailed through roll brace and into end of blocking, typ.
    - d. Shall be installed at intervals of 48" or less.

# FLOOR EDGE ROLL BRACING

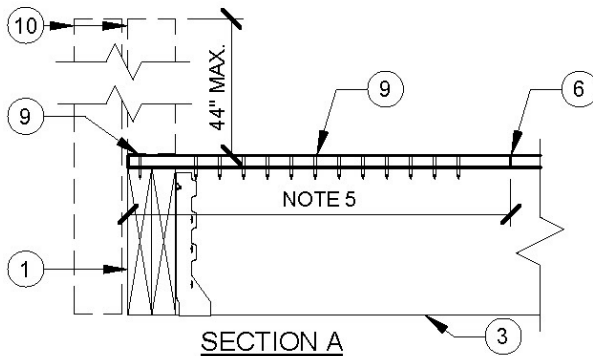
## JOISTS PERPENDICULAR TO EDGE



TOP VIEW: JOISTS PERPENDICULAR TO EDGE, GUARD POST ALIGNED WITH JOIST



AXON: JOISTS PERP. TO EDGE, GUARD POST ALIGNED WITH JOIST



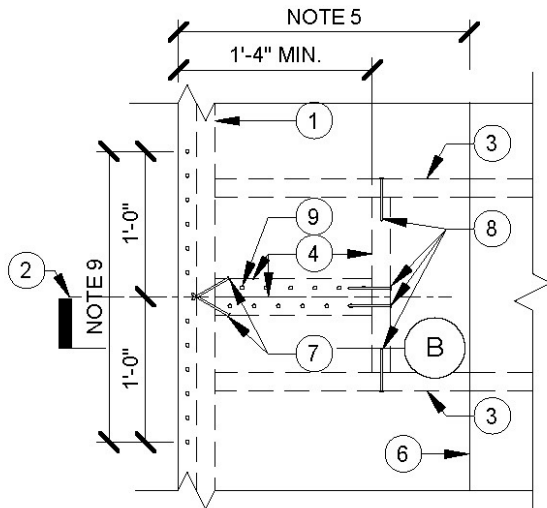
### NOTES:

1. EDGE MEMBER WITH MIN. 3" NET WIDTH, MIN. 9-1/4" HEIGHT.
2. CENTER LINE OF TOP- OR SIDE-MOUNTED GUARD POST WITH 44" MAX HEIGHT.
3. TYPICAL JOIST (NOMINAL OR ENGINEERED LUMBER) WITH MIN. 9-1/4" HEIGHT.
4. FULL DEPTH BLOCKING WITH MIN. 9-1/4" HEIGHT.
5. FLOOR SHEATHING TO BE CONTINUOUS FOR A MIN. OF 2'-0" FROM EDGE, TYP.
6. JOINT IN FLOOR SHEATHING.
7. 6 - 16d COMMON (3 1/2" x 0.162") TOENAILS, STAGGERED, TYP.
8. 6 - 16d COMMON (3 1/2" x 0.162") NAILS, TYP.
9. 12 - 10d COMMON (3" x 0.148") NAILS BETWEEN FLOOR SHEATHING AND EDGE BEAM, JOIST OR BLOCKING, TYP.
10. TOP- OR SIDE-MOUNTED GUARD POST.

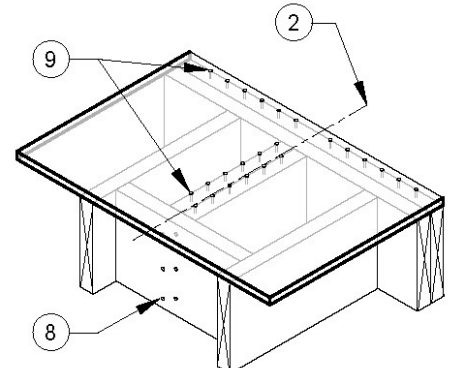
SUBSTANTIATION AS SUBMITTED FOR ICC APPROVAL OF R502.11 IN THE 2024 IRC.



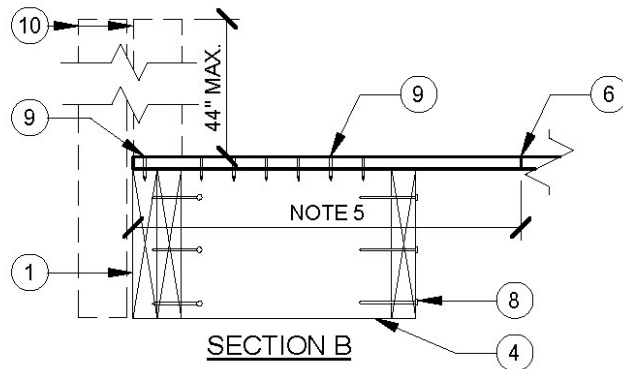
# FLOOR EDGE ROLL BRACING JOISTS PERPENDICULAR TO EDGE



TOP VIEW: JOISTS PERPENDICULAR TO  
EDGE, GUARD POST OFFSET FROM JOISTS



AXON: JOISTS PERP. TO EDGE,  
GUARD POST OFFSET FROM JOISTS

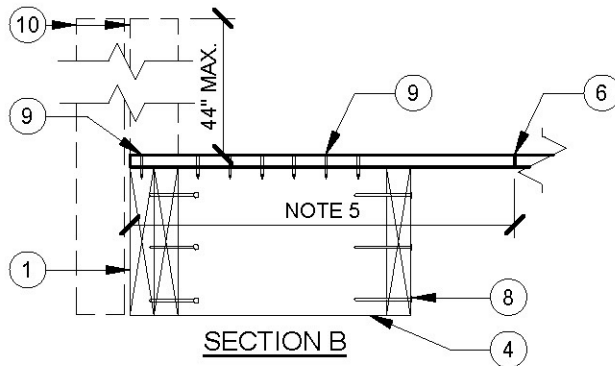
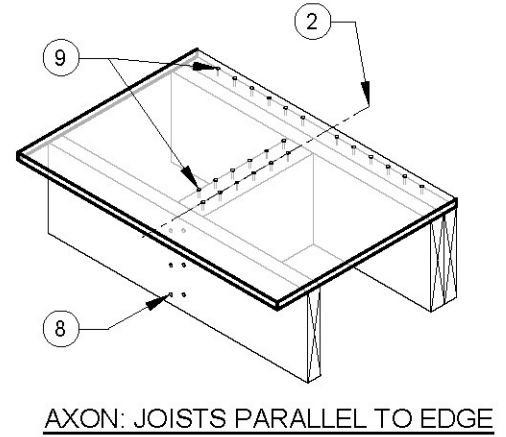
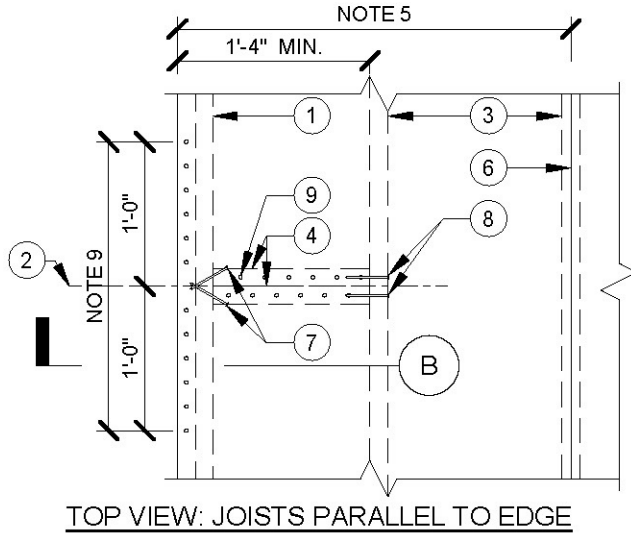


## NOTES:

1. EDGE MEMBER WITH MIN. 3" NET WIDTH, MIN. 9-1/4" HEIGHT.
2. CENTER LINE OF TOP- OR SIDE-MOUNTED GUARD POST WITH 44" MAX HEIGHT.
3. TYPICAL JOIST (NOMINAL OR ENGINEERED LUMBER) WITH MIN. 9-1/4" HEIGHT.
4. FULL DEPTH BLOCKING WITH MIN. 9-1/4" HEIGHT.
5. FLOOR SHEATHING TO BE CONTINUOUS FOR A MIN. OF 2'-0" FROM EDGE, TYP.
6. JOINT IN FLOOR SHEATHING.
7. 6 - 16d COMMON (3 1/2" x 0.162") TOENAILS, STAGGERED, TYP.
8. 6 - 16d COMMON (3 1/2" x 0.162") NAILS, TYP.
9. 12 - 10d COMMON (3" x 0.148") NAILS BETWEEN FLOOR SHEATHING AND EDGE BEAM, JOIST OR BLOCKING, TYP.
10. TOP- OR SIDE-MOUNTED GUARD POST.

SUBSTANTIATION AS SUBMITTED FOR ICC APPROVAL OF R502.11 IN THE 2024 IRC.

## FLOOR EDGE ROLL BRACING JOISTS PARALLEL TO EDGE



### NOTES:

1. EDGE MEMBER WITH MIN. 3" NET WIDTH, MIN. 9-1/4" HEIGHT.
2. CENTER LINE OF TOP- OR SIDE-MOUNTED GUARD POST WITH 44" MAX HEIGHT.
3. TYPICAL JOIST (NOMINAL OR ENGINEERED LUMBER) WITH MIN. 9-1/4" HEIGHT.
4. FULL DEPTH BLOCKING WITH MIN. 9-1/4" HEIGHT.
5. FLOOR SHEATHING TO BE CONTINUOUS FOR A MIN. OF 2'-0" FROM EDGE, TYP.
6. JOINT IN FLOOR SHEATHING.
7. 6 - 16d COMMON (3 1/2" x 0.162") TOENAILS, STAGGERED, TYP.
8. 6 - 16d COMMON (3 1/2" x 0.162") NAILS, TYP.
9. 12 - 10d COMMON (3" x 0.148") NAILS BETWEEN FLOOR SHEATHING AND EDGE BEAM, JOIST OR BLOCKING, TYP.
10. TOP- OR SIDE-MOUNTED GUARD POST.

SUBSTANTIATION AS SUBMITTED FOR ICC APPROVAL OF R502.11 IN THE 2024 IRC.

# EDGE MEMBER TORSION CALCULATIONS

## Torsion Member Assumptions:

200 lb outward load applied 45.5 in. above the top of the member.

Torsion moment =  $T = (45.5 \text{ in.})(200 \text{ lb}) = 9100 \text{ in-lb}$

Following Section 4.6 of Timber Construction Manual (6<sup>th</sup> edition):

$$f_{vt} = \frac{T(3d + 1.8b)}{d^2 b^2}$$

For 6x10 SPF sawn lumber:

$$F_{vt}' = 2/3 * F_v * C_D = 2/3 * (125 \text{ psi}) * 1.6 = 133 \text{ psi}$$

$$f_{vt} = \frac{T(3d + 1.8b)}{d^2 b^2} = \frac{(9100 \text{ in-lb})(3(9.25 \text{ in.}) + 1.8(5.5 \text{ in.}))}{(9.25 \text{ in.})^2 (5.5 \text{ in.})^2} = 132 \text{ psi} \leq F_{vt}' = 133 \text{ psi}$$

For 5-1/8 in. x 9-1/4 in., 16F-1.3E glued laminated timber:

$$F_{vt}' = 2/3 * F_{vx} * C_{vt} * C_D = 2/3 * (195 \text{ psi}) * 0.72 * 1.6 = 150 \text{ psi}$$

$$f_{vt} = \frac{T(3d + 1.8b)}{d^2 b^2} = \frac{(9100 \text{ in-lb})(3(9.25 \text{ in.}) + 1.8(5.125 \text{ in.}))}{(9.25 \text{ in.})^2 (5.125 \text{ in.})^2} = 150 \text{ psi} \leq F_{vt}' = 150 \text{ psi}$$

SUBSTANTIATION AS SUBMITTED FOR ICC APPROVAL OF R502.11 IN THE 2024 IRC.

## CONNECTION CALCULATIONS

### Variables and Assumptions

Post\_Height := 44in

Flooring\_thickness := 0.75in

Plywood\_thickness := 0.75in

Joist\_depth := 9.25in

Blocking\_width := 1.5in

Blocking\_length := 13in

Bottom\_compression\_zone := 1.7in

Fastener\_arm := Joist\_depth -  $\frac{\text{Bottom\_compression\_zone}}{2}$  = 8.4-in

Load\_moment\_arm := Post\_Height + Flooring\_thickness + Plywood\_thickness + Fastener\_arm = 53.9-in

Fastener\_arm\_conservative :=  $\frac{2 \cdot \text{Joist\_depth}}{3}$  = 6.17-in

Load\_moment\_arm\_conservative := Post\_Height + Flooring\_thickness + Plywood\_thickness ... = 51.67-in  
+ Fastener\_arm\_conservative

Load\_moment\_arm\_blocking := Post\_Height + Flooring\_thickness +  $\frac{\text{Plywood\_thickness}}{2}$  = 45.13-in

Assume wood is SPF No. 2 or better (SG=0.42)

$F_{cperp}$  := 425psi

$C_D$  := 1.6

### Fastener Capacities (See AWC Connection Calculator Results)

10d Common Nail in single shear installed into floor joist through plywood (conservatively assume capacity for 15/32 in. plywood)

$z_{10plywood}$  := 131lbf

16d Common Nail in single shear installed into floor joist through blocking, toe-nail

$z_{16}$  := 191lbf

$C_{tn}$  := 0.83

$z_{16tn}$  :=  $C_{tn} \cdot z_{16}$  = 159 lbf

16d Common Nail in single shear installed into end grain of blocking through floor joist

$z_{16eg}$  := 128lbf

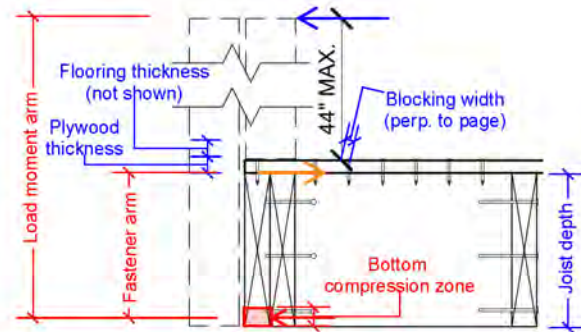


Diagram with least conservative moment arm

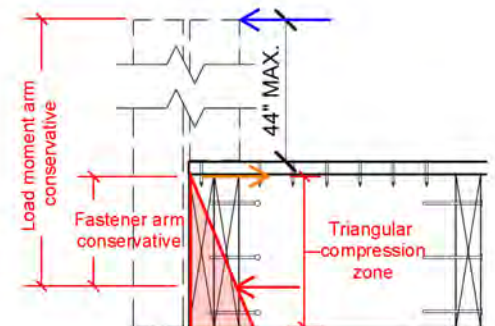


Diagram with conservative moment arm (triangular compression zone)

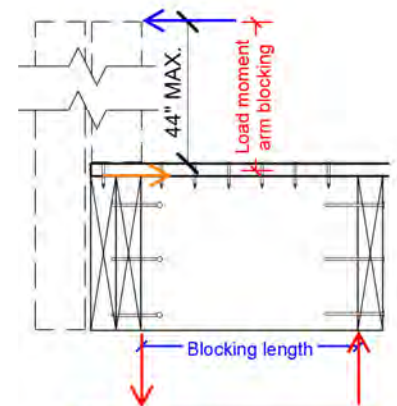


Diagram with blocking reactions

SUBSTANTIATION AS SUBMITTED FOR ICC APPROVAL OF R502.11 IN THE 2024 IRC.



## CONNECTION CALCULATIONS

### Outward Load on post

$$\text{Outward\_Load} := 200\text{lbf} \quad \leftarrow$$

$$\text{Shear}_{\text{plywood}} := \text{Outward\_Load} \cdot \frac{\text{Load\_moment\_arm}}{\text{Fastener\_arm}} = 1283.333\text{-lbf} \quad \rightarrow$$

$$\text{Compression} := \text{Shear}_{\text{plywood}} - \text{Outward\_Load} = 1083\text{ lbf} \quad \leftarrow$$

$$\text{Bottom\_compression\_zone\_check} := \frac{\text{Compression}}{F_{\text{comp}} \cdot \text{Blocking\_width}} = 1.7\text{-in}$$

$$\text{Comp\_zone\_check} := \frac{\text{Bottom\_compression\_zone}}{\text{Bottom\_compression\_zone\_check}} = 1$$

$$\text{Shear}_{\text{plywood\_conserv}} := \text{Outward\_Load} \cdot \frac{\text{Load\_moment\_arm\_conservative}}{\text{Fastener\_arm\_conservative}} = 1676\text{-lbf}$$

Determine shear in nails between plywood and joists or blocking using moment arm with compression zone at bottom of joist

Check compression in edge member

Actual compression zone depth is approximately equal to assumed compression zone depth, so no need to iterate calculation again.

Determine shear in nails between plywood and joists or blocking using conservative moment arm with compression zone triangular distribution over height of joist.

Determine number of nails required between plywood and joist or blocking using the conservative and least conservative moment arms between the shear plane and center of compression zone

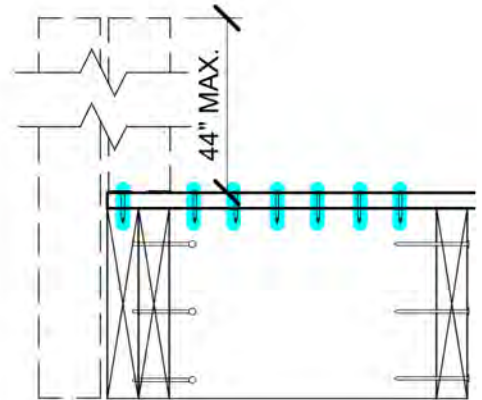
Using least conservative moment arm

$$\text{num\_plywood\_nails} := \frac{\text{Shear}_{\text{plywood}}}{Z_{10\text{plywood}}} = 9.8$$

Using conservative moment arm

$$\text{num\_plywood\_nails\_conservative} := \frac{\text{Shear}_{\text{plywood\_conserv}}}{Z_{10\text{plywood}}} = 12.8$$

**Use (12) 10d nails between plywood and joist or blocking**



SUBSTANTIATION AS SUBMITTED FOR ICC APPROVAL OF R502.11 IN THE 2024 IRC.

## CONNECTION CALCULATIONS

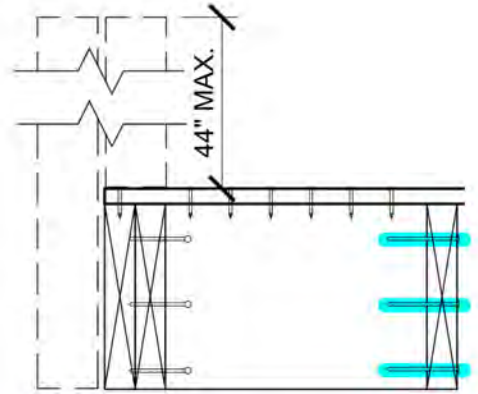
Determine number of nails required between blocking and joists, installed into end grain

$$\text{Blocking\_shear} := \frac{\text{Outward\_Load} \cdot \text{Load\_moment\_arm\_blocking}}{\text{Blocking\_length}} = 694 \text{ lbf}$$

$$\text{num\_blocking\_nails\_eg} := \frac{\text{Blocking\_shear}}{Z_{16eg}} = 5.4$$

Note that shear in blocking from moment caused by outward load exceeds potential shear in blocking due to downward load

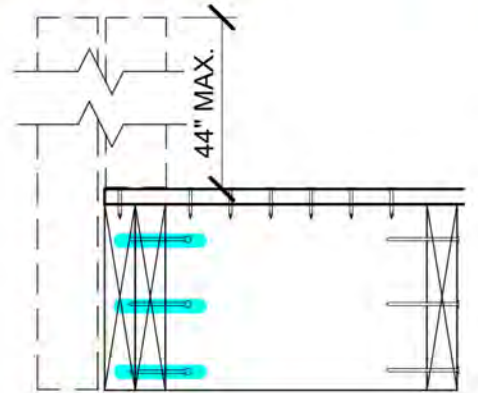
**Use (6) 16d nails between blocking and joists, installed into end grain**



Determine number of nails required between joist or blocking and edge member, installed as toe-nail

$$\text{num\_toenails} := \frac{\text{Blocking\_shear}}{Z_{16tn}} = 4.4$$

**Use (6) 16d nails between joist or blocking and edge member, installed as toe-nail, (3) on each side of blocking**



SUBSTANTIATION AS SUBMITTED FOR ICC APPROVAL OF R502.11 IN THE 2024 IRC.

# CONNECTION CALCULATIONS

2/16/22, 4:15 PM

Connection Calculator

<b>Design Method</b>	Allowable Stress Design (ASD)
<b>Connection Type</b>	Lateral loading
<b>Fastener Type</b>	Nail
<b>Loading Scenario</b>	Single Shear

<b>Main Member Type</b>	Spruce-Pine-Fir
<b>Main Member Thickness</b>	-- Other (in inches) -- 9.25
<b>Side Member Type</b>	Plywood (Structural 1 grade)
<b>Side Member Thickness</b>	15/32 in.
<b>Nail Type</b>	Common Wire
<b>Nail Size</b>	10d (D = 0.148 in.; L = 3 in.)
<b>Load Duration Factor</b>	C <sub>D</sub> = 1.6
<b>Wet Service Factor</b>	C <sub>M</sub> = 1.0
<b>End Grain Factor</b>	C <sub>eg</sub> = 1.0
<b>Temperature Factor</b>	C <sub>t</sub> = 1.0
<b>Diaphragm Factor</b>	C <sub>di</sub> = 1.0

Z10plywood = Single shear capacity of 10d common nail installed from plywood into main member

## Connection Yield Modes

<b>Im</b>	913 lbs.
<b>Is</b>	235 lbs.
<b>II</b>	321 lbs.
<b>III<sub>m</sub></b>	335 lbs.
<b>III<sub>s</sub></b>	131 lbs.
<b>IV</b>	172 lbs.

<b>Adjusted ASD Capacity</b>	<b>131 lbs.</b>
------------------------------	-----------------

- Nail bending yield strength of 90000 psi is assumed.
- The Adjusted ASD Capacity does not apply for toe-nails installed in wood members.
- Length of tapered tip is assumed to be two times the nail diameter for calculating dowel bearing length in the main member.
- The Adjusted ASD Capacity only applies for nails that have been driven flush with the side member surface. It does not apply for nails that have been overdriven into the side member.

While every effort has been made to insure the accuracy of the information presented, and special effort has been made to assure that the information reflects the state-of-the-art, neither the American Wood Council nor its members assume any responsibility for any particular design prepared from this on-line Connection Calculator. Those using this on-line Connection Calculator assume all liability from its use.

The Connection Calculator was designed and created by Cameron Knudson, Michael Dodson and David Pollock at Washington State University. Support for development of the Connection Calculator was provided by [American Wood Council](#).

SUBSTANTIATION AS SUBMITTED FOR ICC APPROVAL OF R502.11 IN THE 2024 IRC.



# CONNECTION CALCULATIONS

2/10/22, 10:55 AM

Connection Calculator

<b>Design Method</b>	Allowable Stress Design (ASD)	▼
<b>Connection Type</b>	Lateral loading	▼
<b>Fastener Type</b>	Nail	▼
<b>Loading Scenario</b>	Single Shear	▼

<b>Main Member Type</b>	Spruce-Pine-Fir	▼
<b>Main Member Thickness</b>	-- Other (in inches) --	▼
	9.25	
<b>Side Member Type</b>	Spruce-Pine-Fir	▼
<b>Side Member Thickness</b>	1.5 in.	▼
<b>Nail Type</b>	Common Wire	▼
<b>Nail Size</b>	16d (D = 0.162 in.; L = 3.5 in.)	▼
<b>Load Duration Factor</b>	C <sub>D</sub> = 1.6	▼
<b>Wet Service Factor</b>	C <sub>M</sub> = 1.0	▼
<b>End Grain Factor</b>	C <sub>eg</sub> = 1.0	▼
<b>Temperature Factor</b>	C <sub>t</sub> = 1.0	▼
<b>Diaphragm Factor</b>	C <sub>di</sub> = 1.0	▼

Z16 = Single shear capacity of 16d common nail installed from side member into main member

## Connection Yield Modes

<b>Im</b>	789 lbs.
<b>Is</b>	592 lbs.
<b>II</b>	291 lbs.
<b>III<sub>m</sub></b>	286 lbs.
<b>III<sub>s</sub></b>	227 lbs.
<b>IV</b>	191 lbs.

<b>Adjusted ASD Capacity</b>	<b>191 lbs.</b>
------------------------------	-----------------

- Nail bending yield strength of 90000 psi is assumed.
- The Adjusted ASD Capacity does not apply for toe-nails installed in wood members.
- Length of tapered tip is assumed to be two times the nail diameter for calculating dowel bearing length in the main member.
- The Adjusted ASD Capacity only applies for nails that have been driven flush with the side member surface. It does not apply for nails that have been overdriven into the side member.

While every effort has been made to insure the accuracy of the information presented, and special effort has been made to assure that the information reflects the state-of-the-art, neither the American Wood Council nor its members assume any responsibility for any particular design prepared from this on-line Connection Calculator. Those using this on-line Connection Calculator assume all liability from its use.

The Connection Calculator was designed and created by Cameron Knudson, Michael Dodson and David Pollock at Washington State University. Support for development of the Connection Calculator was provided by [American Wood Council](#).

SUBSTANTIATION AS SUBMITTED FOR ICC APPROVAL OF R502.11 IN THE 2024 IRC.



# CONNECTION CALCULATIONS

2/10/22, 10:53 AM

Connection Calculator

<b>Design Method</b>	Allowable Stress Design (ASD) ▾
<b>Connection Type</b>	Lateral loading ▾
<b>Fastener Type</b>	Nail ▾
<b>Loading Scenario</b>	Single/Shear ▾

<b>Main Member Type</b>	Spruce-Pine-Fir ▾
<b>Main Member Thickness</b>	-- Other (in inches) -- 9.25
<b>Side Member Type</b>	Spruce-Pine-Fir ▾
<b>Side Member Thickness</b>	1.5 in. ▾
<b>Nail Type</b>	Common Wire ▾
<b>Nail Size</b>	16d (D = 0.162 in.; L = 3.5 in.) ▾
<b>Load Duration Factor</b>	C <sub>D</sub> = 1.6 ▾
<b>Wet Service Factor</b>	C <sub>M</sub> = 1.0 ▾
<b>End Grain Factor</b>	C <sub>eg</sub> = 0.67 ▾
<b>Temperature Factor</b>	C <sub>t</sub> = 1.0 ▾
<b>Diaphragm Factor</b>	C <sub>di</sub> = 1.0 ▾

Z16eg = Single shear capacity of 16d common nail installed from side member into end grain of main member

## Connection Yield Modes

<b>Im</b>	529 lbs.
<b>Is</b>	397 lbs.
<b>II</b>	195 lbs.
<b>III<sub>m</sub></b>	192 lbs.
<b>III<sub>s</sub></b>	152 lbs.
<b>IV</b>	128 lbs.

<b>Adjusted ASD Capacity</b>	128 lbs.
------------------------------	----------

- Nail bending yield strength of 90000 psi is assumed.
- The Adjusted ASD Capacity does not apply for toe-nails installed in wood members.
- Length of tapered tip is assumed to be two times the nail diameter for calculating dowel bearing length in the main member.
- The Adjusted ASD Capacity only applies for nails that have been driven flush with the side member surface. It does not apply for nails that have been overdriven into the side member.

While every effort has been made to insure the accuracy of the information presented, and special effort has been made to assure that the information reflects the state-of-the-art, neither the American Wood Council nor its members assume any responsibility for any particular design prepared from this on-line Connection Calculator. Those using this on-line Connection Calculator assume all liability from its use.

The Connection Calculator was designed and created by Cameron Knudson, Michael Dodson and David Pollock at Washington State University. Support for development of the Connection Calculator was provided by [American Wood Council](#).

SUBSTANTIATION AS SUBMITTED FOR ICC APPROVAL OF R502.11 IN THE 2024 IRC







MORE INFORMATION, INCLUDING  
CAD FILES, IS AVAILABLE AT  
[WWW.STAIRWAYS.ORG/  
GUARD-CONNECTIONS](http://WWW.STAIRWAYS.ORG/GUARD-CONNECTIONS)

[WWW.STAIRWAYS.ORG](http://WWW.STAIRWAYS.ORG)

877-500-5759

[SMA@STAIRWAYS.ORG](mailto:SMA@STAIRWAYS.ORG)