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## DECK CODE REQUIREMENTS

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Please refer to the International Residential Code 2009 and publication DCA 6 – Residential Deck Construction Guide – 2009 IRC Version from the American Wood Council [www.awc.org](http://www.awc.org). Using this information to create your deck plans will help ensure compliance.

Significant code changes were made in the 2009 International Residential Code for the construction of decks.

1. Compliance with ASTM D 7032 for wood/plastic composites.
2. Compliance with Hold Down Tension Devices for lateral load connection to the existing or new house floor framing.  
*Exception: Decks designed to be free-standing.*
3. Compliance with 200 lbs. of concentrated load on guards and handrails.
4. Compliance with risers, treads, spindles and handrails for the stairways.
5. Compliance with the bolt attachment and bracket/hardware requirements.
6. Compliance with the attachment of the ledger board to the existing or new exterior coverings.
7. Compliance with the connection of posts and beams.
8. Compliance with the footing depth of 36 inches below grade.
9. Compliance with floor joist spans.
10. For additional information on deck construction requirements, refer to the 2009 International Residential Code and/or the American Wood Council at [www.awc.org](http://www.awc.org).