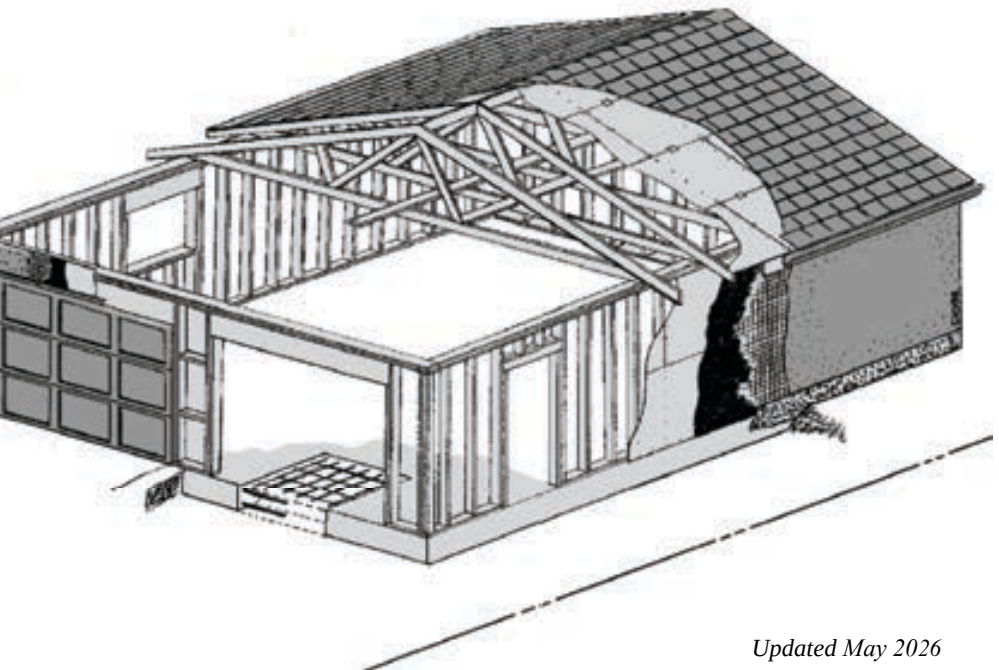




PLANNING
AND ZONING
DEPARTMENT

Detached Garages (Wood Frame)

***Construction and zoning
requirements for detached garages
and storage sheds that serve a
single family dwelling***



Updated May 2026

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note

The Steinbach Building By-law is primarily an administrative document that adopts the Manitoba Building Code and related standards to provide construction requirements. Throughout this booklet the Manitoba Building Code will be referred to as the Building Code.

Detached garages and storage sheds vary in size and area and it is beyond the scope of this booklet to deal with every possible situation. The requirements and construction guidelines that follow are provided to assist you in designing and constructing a detached garage or storage shed which will comply with the regulations. If the nature of your project is different than that contained in this booklet and you are not familiar with the regulations which may be applicable, it is recommended that you contact the City of Steinbach's Planning and Zoning Department.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information contained in this booklet. However, in the event of a discrepancy between this booklet and the governing City of Steinbach By-law, the By-law will take precedence.

Is a building permit required to build a detached garage or storage shed?

Yes! A building permit is required. This permit may be obtained by submitting the required information to the Planning and Zoning Department, 225 Reimer Avenue, or online on www.steinbach.ca.

Exception: *Storage sheds that are 11.6 sq. m. (125 sq. ft.) or less in area do not require a building permit provided they are situated on the property in accordance with the Zoning By-law and provided they do not create a hazard. Larger sheds require a building permit.*

Do I need a building permit for a foundation slab only?

No, but before pouring the concrete slab for your future garage or storage shed you should make sure that this slab will meet ALL applicable Building Code and Zoning By-law regulations with respect to:

- a) allowable size;
- b) appropriate thickness and reinforcing; and
- c) allowable distances from property lines and the dwelling;

For instance, as explained in other sections of this booklet, the Building Code has special requirements concerning the foundation slab thickness if the structure is 50 sq. m. (538 sq.ft.) or larger in area.

As well, the Zoning By-law has minimum side yard regulations which, together with the proposed width of the roof eaves, will affect the location of the garage or storage shed in relation to the property lines. Please refer to the section on Zoning requirements for further information regarding acceptable locations and allowable size for your detached garage or storage shed.

When you decide to proceed with the construction of the garage or storage shed, a building permit will be required at that time.

What information is required to make a building permit application?

You must present 1 copy of a Surveyor's Building Location Certificate. As an alternative, a well drawn site plan showing all property dimensions, locations of all buildings, and the location and size of the proposed structure (including doors & windows) may be acceptable.

Normally, no construction plans are required if you are building a one-storey conventional wood framed detached garage (commonly referred to as a 'garage package') structure. However, in certain instances, additional information including plans or design by a Professional Engineer may be required.

What about a carport? Does it require a building permit?

Yes! A building permit is required to build a carport. If the carport stands alone or is attached to a detached garage, then the Zoning and Building Code regulations in this booklet apply.

Construction plans will be required for all detached carports. Detailed information must be provided on the roof framing, the number of posts, the post foundation and the size of the beams over top of the posts.

If the carport is attached to the house or to an attached garage, then it must comply with the regulations for house additions. The Zoning and Building Code regulations for house additions are different from those contained in this booklet. Please contact the Planning and Zoning Department for more information.

Can I assume that the City sidewalk, lane pavement, or neighbour's fence is the property line?

No! The only accurate way to determine your property line is with a Manitoba Land Surveyor's Staking Certificate.

How can I obtain a Staking Certificate?

Check your records. Some homeowners may have previously acquired this document in conjunction with receiving a Manitoba Land Surveyors Building Location Certificate. Otherwise, the services of a qualified Land Surveyor should be obtained. Using the services of a Land Surveyor is the best way to avoid property boundary disputes with neighbours.

How close can I build to the property lines?

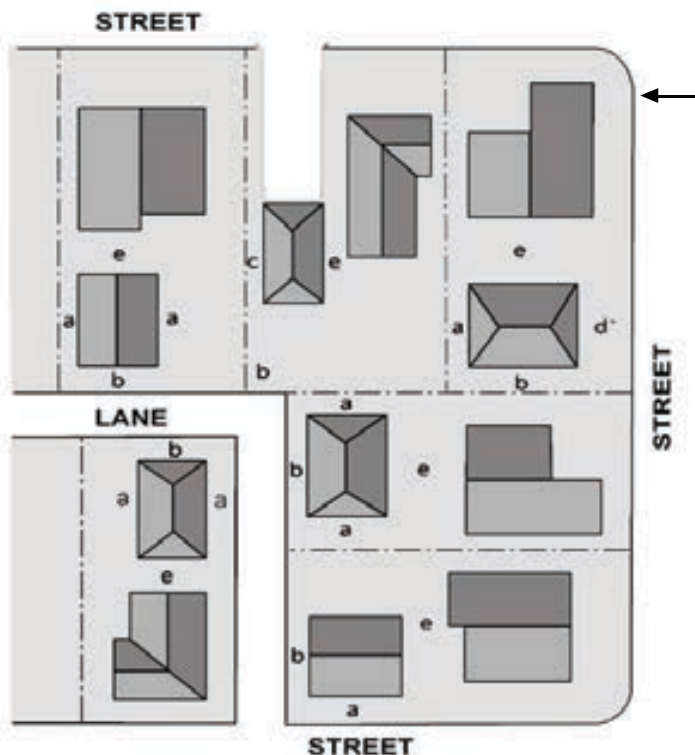
In most cases when a garage or storage shed is built to the rear of the dwelling, it can come as close as 600 mm (2 ft.) to the side and rear property lines.

A garage or storage shed located beside the dwelling or on a reverse corner lot* require different setbacks. See FIGURE 1.

FIGURE 1 - Property Line Setbacks

- a - 600 mm (2 ft.)
- b - 600 mm (2 ft.)
- c - same as dwelling (usually 1.2 m (4 ft.))
- d - same as dwelling (usually 2.4 m (8 ft.))
- e - 1.2 m (4 ft.) clear of all projections

(* a reverse corner lot is a corner lot where its rear property line abuts the side lot line of an adjoining property.)



Do these setbacks include the overhang?

In the required setbacks from the property lines to the wall of the garage, shed or carport posts, a 600 mm (2 ft.) overhang is permitted. (Eavestrough may be added to the 600 mm (2 ft.) overhang.)

NOTE: It should be recognized that if a larger overhang is desired then the garage or storage shed wall must be set back further from the property line. A clear separation of 600 mm (2 ft.) from the property line to the eaves must always be maintained as shown in FIGURE 2. In this example the 600 mm (2 ft.) overhang requires that the garage wall be set back 900 mm (3 ft.) from the property line.

What is the maximum height allowable?

The maximum height allowable for a garage or storage shed is 4.57 m (15 ft.) determined according to roof style as shown in FIGURE 3.

FIGURE 2 - Setback From Overhang.

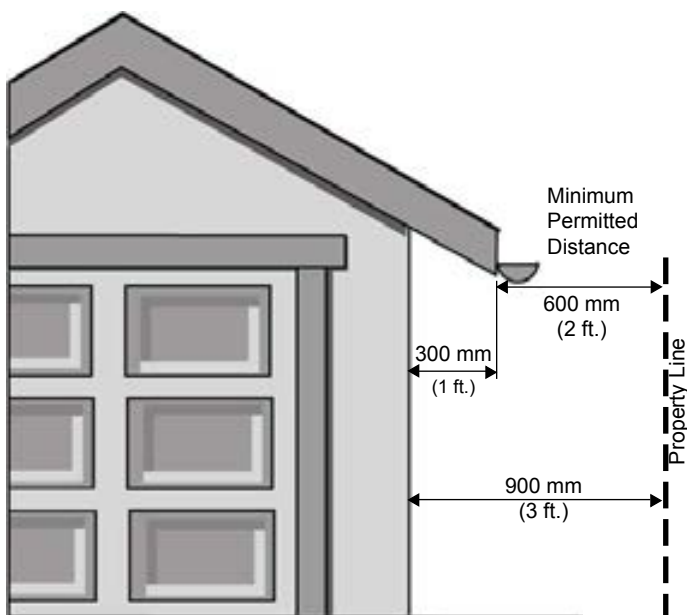
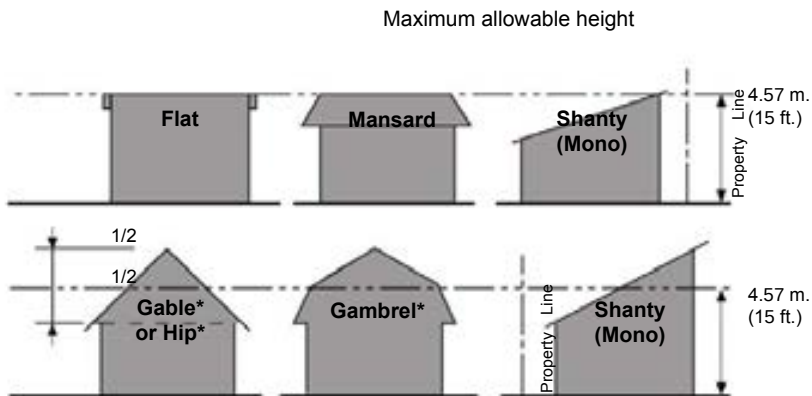


FIGURE 3 - Allowable Roof Heights.



**Note: Where the slope of a gable, gambrel, or hip roof, or any portion of such roof is less than 1:3 (rise:run), the building height shall be measured as though the roof were flat.*

How large of a garage can I build?

Contact the Planning and Zoning Department for the size of building you can construct in your area. Call (204) 326-9877.

If I cannot meet these requirements, what are my alternatives?

To vary these requirements you must apply for a zoning variance. This application can be made at the Planning and Zoning Department, 225 Reimer Avenue.

What type of foundation is required for a one-storey wood frame detached garage?

1. For a detached garage having a building area of less than 50 sq. m. (538 sq. ft.) it is recommended that a concrete slab with a thickness of not less than 100 mm (4 in.) be used as shown in FIGURE 4a.
2. For a building area of 50 to 70 sq. m. (538 to 753 sq. ft.) inclusive, as a minimum, a thickened edge concrete slab shall be used as shown in FIGURE 4b.
3. For foundations other than those shown in Figures 4a and 4b, or if the building area is greater than 70 sq. m. (753 sq. ft.), or if the garage supports an upper floor or a roof with other than limited attic storage floor area, the foundation must be designed by a professional engineer registered in the Province of Manitoba.

NOTE: To be considered as one-storey, roof trusses that are designed for storage shall be limited to 1066 mm (42 in.) height, 2590 mm (8 ft 6 in.) length and 1.0 kPa (20 psf) storage live load.

Foundation Plan for a 1-Storey Detached Garages

FIGURE 4a

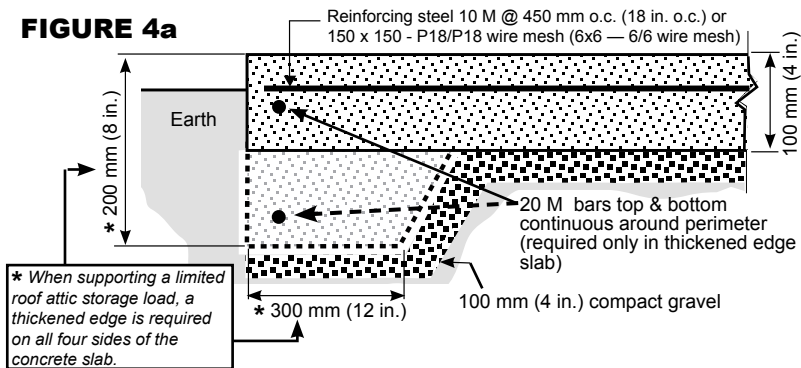
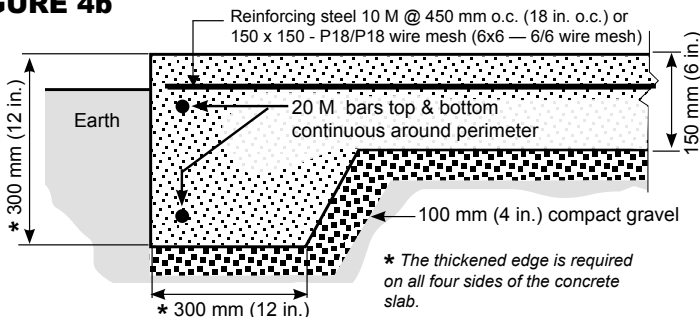


FIGURE 4b



What if I add on to my existing garage?

For a garage, shed or carport addition to an existing structure, the entire foundation, both the existing and the addition, must be made to comply with the foundation requirements shown in FIGURES 4a and 4b or alternatively the foundation must be designed by a professional engineer.

Can I vary from the foundation slab details shown in this pamphlet?

The details and standards in the pamphlet are considered non-engineered details and are based on past “good construction practice”. Variations from these design standards are ONLY permitted where the design is by a professional engineer. Some variations that will require an engineer are:

1. Wood mudsill foundation and anchorage details to prevent uplift due to wind.
2. Foundation slab that includes a curb of more than 150 mm (6 in.) or retaining wall to hold back the earth where the lot is not level.
3. Foundation slab that is greater than 70 sq.m. (753 sq. ft.)
4. Foundation slab that supports a second floor or roof attic storage with a height of more than 1066 (42 in.) and/or supports a load more than 1.0 kPa (20 psf).

What type of concrete do I require for my foundation slab?

Concrete used for all detached garage or shed foundation slabs must have a minimum compressive strength of 32 MPa (4600 psi) after 28 days and must have air entrainment of 5 to 8 per cent.

Do I have to fire-rate the exterior walls?

You must fire-rate only those walls which are closer than 600 mm (24 in.) to any property line which faces an adjoining property. If the wall faces a street or a public lane this requirement does not apply.

(**Note:** It is possible that in some instances the Zoning By-law may not permit a wall to come closer than 600 mm (24 in.) to a property line.)

Fire-rating of walls can be achieved by applying to the inside face of the wall a layer of 15.9 mm (5/8 in.) standard non-rated drywall or 12.7 mm (1/2 in.) fire-rated (Type X) drywall or equivalent.

Can I have windows in the walls?

Windows and other openings, including doors, are only permitted in a wall if the wall is 1.2 m (4 ft.) or more from the property line of an adjoining property. If the wall faces a street or a public lane, this requirement does not apply. There are no distance restrictions between a window in a detached garage and a single family dwelling on the same lot.

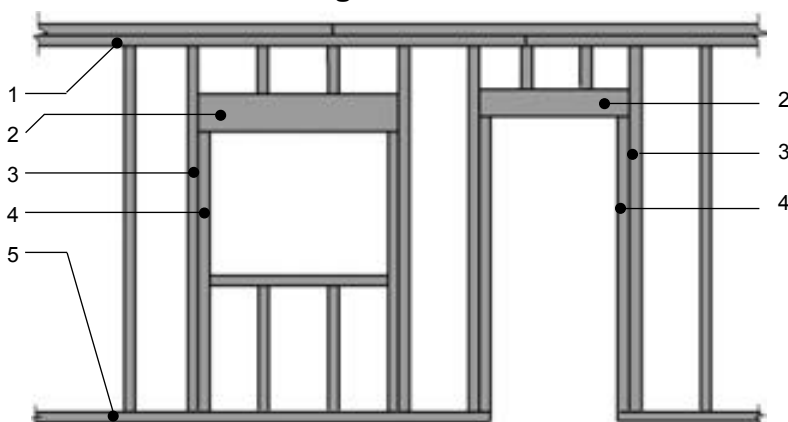
The above requirements for fire rating of walls and placement of windows or other openings in these walls are designed to limit fire spread between buildings on adjoining properties.

What type of framing methods are acceptable?

The framing details described in this pamphlet are based on a 1-storey wood-framed structure that do not include any additional superimposed loads and further design consideration may be required to address these additional superimposed loads. Framing methods must be in accordance with good engineering practice. A detailed discussion of this aspect of construction is beyond the scope of this publication. However, some common framing details are indicated on the following pages. Refer to FIGURES 5,6 & 7, and TABLES 1 & 2.

Where the structure will not be a standard wood frame structure, such as post and beam, concrete block, brick (including brick veneer) or metal framing or where the framing members exceeds that prescribed in this pamphlet, the design must be by a professional engineer and drawings must be submitted under the seal and signature of a professional engineer.

FIGURE 5 - Wall Framing and Lintel Detail.



Notes to FIGURE 5:

- 1) **DOUBLE TOPPLATE:** Joints must be staggered at least one stud spacing. Joints are to be lapped or suitably tied at corners or intersecting walls.
- 2) **LINTEL:** Refer to TABLE 1 to determine the size of lintel required for the opening width you select.
- 3) **THROUGH STUD:**
Refer to TABLE 2 to determine the maximum spacing and maximum unsupported height of studs.
- 4) **CRIPPLE STUD:** The Building Code requires these studs to be a single full length piece of lumber extending from the underside of the lintel to the bottom plate. Two cripples are required on both sides of opening when opening is greater than 3 m (9 ft. 10 in.)
- 5) **SINGLE BOTTOM PLATE:** To prevent uplift, this bottom plate should be firmly anchored down at each side of door openings, at each end of each wall, and at intervals not exceeding 2.4 m (7 ft. 10 in.).

FIGURE 6 - Exterior Corner Detail.

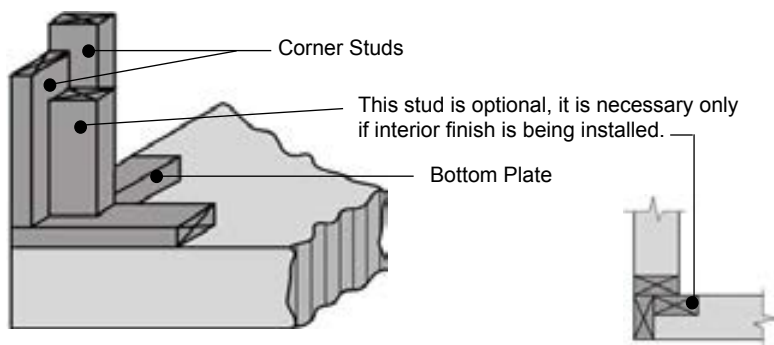


FIGURE 7 - Exterior Wall Framing at Gable End Detail.

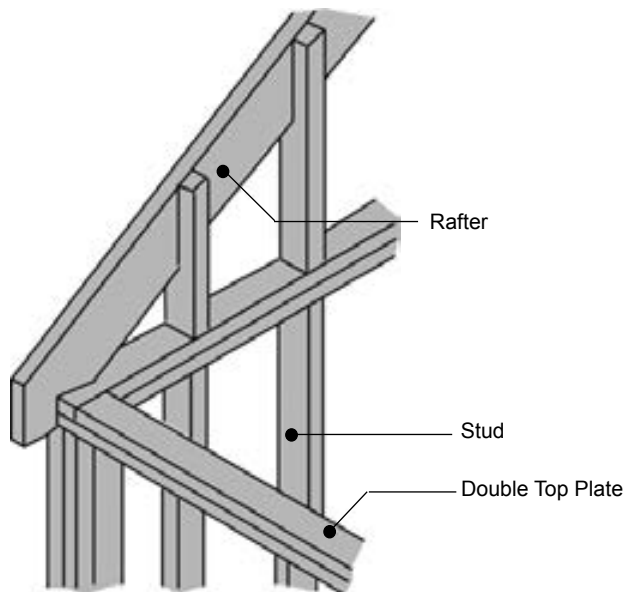


TABLE 1 - Wood Lintel Spans for Windows and Man Doors

Size of Lintels	Maximum Allowable Spans
2 - 38 x 89 mm (2 - 2 x 4)	1.19 m (3 ft. 11 in.)
2 - 38 x 140 mm (2 - 2 x 6)	1.79 m (5 ft. 10 in.)
2 - 38 x 184 mm (2 - 2 x 8)	2.18 m (7 ft. 2 in.)

Notes to TABLE 1:

- 1) This table is for use with Spruce-Pine-Fir lumber grades 1 & 2.
- 2) Built-up lintels must be constructed of full length members. No splicing of members is permitted between supports.

TABLE 2 - Size and Spacing of Studs

Type of Wall	Supported Loads (including dead loads)	Minimum Stud Size	Maximum Stud Spacing	Maximum Upsupported Height
Exterior	Roof with or without attic storage.	38 x 64 mm (2 x 3)	400 mm (16 in.)	2.4 m (7 ft. 10 in.)
		38 x 89 mm (2 x 4)	600 mm (24 in.)	3.0 m (9 ft. 10 in.)

Note to TABLE 2:

This table is for use with all species of lumber and minimum grades of standard, stud, and No. 2.

What size of lintel is required for the overhead door?

The size of lintel required depends entirely upon the load which it must support which, in this case, is determined by the style of roof. See TABLES 3 & 4.

How are the tables used in determining the required overhead door lintel size?

If the roof style selected is Gable #1 as shown in FIGURE 8, then TABLE 3 is used to determine the lintel size. This table is used where the door opening DOES NOT SUPPORT the roof, i.e. where the roof framing elements such as trusses or rafters run parallel to the door opening.

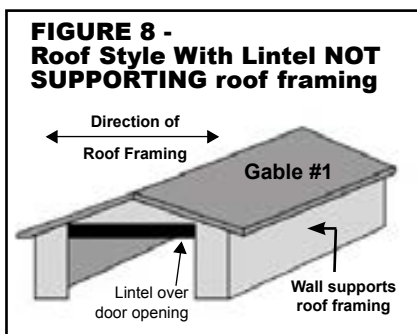


TABLE 3 - Wood Lintels - NOT SUPPORTING Roof Loads

Maximum Door Opening Width	Lintel - Gable Roof Only (Door in Gable End)
2.44 m (8 ft.)	2 - 38 x 184 mm (2 - 2 x 8)
3.66 m (12 ft.)	2 - 38 x 235 mm (2 - 2 x 10)
4.27 m (14 ft.)	3 - 38 x 235 mm (3 - 2 x 10)
4.88 m (16 ft.)	3 - 38 x 235 mm (3 - 2 x 10)
5.49 m (18 ft.)	3 - 38 x 286 mm (3 - 2 x 12)

Notes to TABLE 3:

- 1) This table is for use with Spruce-Pine-Fir lumber grades 1 & 2.
- 2) Built-up lintels must be constructed of full length members. No splicing of members is permitted between supports.

If the roof type selected is as shown in FIGURE 9, i.e. Gable #2, Hip, Mono, or Flat, then TABLE 4 is used to determine the lintel size. This table is used where the lintel over the door opening SUPPORTS the roof, i.e. where the roof framing elements such as trusses or rafters run perpendicular to the door opening.

To select a size of wood lintel simply match the door opening size with the appropriate supported length in TABLE 4 to find the minimum lintel size.

FIGURE 9 - Roof Styles With Lintel SUPPORTING Roof framing.

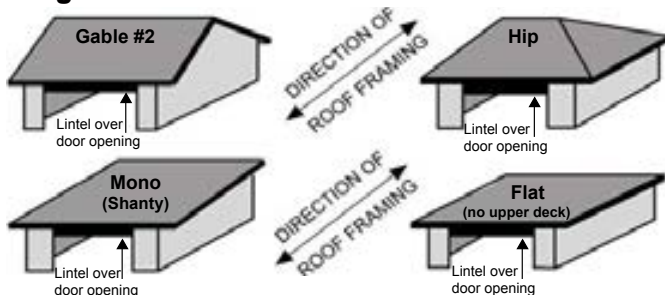


TABLE 4 - Wood Lintels - SUPPORTING Roof Loads

Width of opening (Lintel Span)	S U P P O R T E D L E N G T H (see note 3 below)				
	2.44 m (8 ft.)	3.05 m (10 ft.)	3.66 m (12 ft.)	4.27 m (14 ft.)	4.88 m (16 ft.)
2.44 m (8 ft.)	3 - 38 x 184 (3 - 2 x 8)	3 - 38 x 184 mm (3 - 2 x 8)	3 - 38 x 184 mm (3 - 2 x 8)	3 - 38 x 184 mm (3 - 2 x 8)	3 - 38 x 235 mm (3 - 2 x 10)
2.74 m (9 ft.)	3 - 38 x 184 mm (3 - 2 x 8)	3 - 38 x 184 mm (3 - 2 x 8)	3 - 38 x 184 mm (3 - 2 x 8)	3 - 38 x 235 mm (3 - 2 x 10)	3 - 38 x 235 mm (3 - 2 x 10)
3.05 m (10 ft.)	3 - 38 x 184 mm (3 - 2 x 8)	3 - 38 x 235 mm (3 - 2 x 10)	3 - 38 x 235 mm (3 - 2 x 10)	3 - 38 x 235 mm (3 - 2 x 10)	3 - 38 x 286 mm (3 - 2 x 12)
3.66 m (12 ft.)	3 - 38 x 235 mm (3 - 2 x 10)	3 - 38 x 235 mm (3 - 2 x 10)	3 - 38 x 286 mm (3 - 2 x 12)	4 - 38 x 286 mm (4 - 2 x 12)	4 - 38 x 286 mm (4 - 2 x 12)
4.27 m (14 ft.)	3 - 38 x 286 mm (3 - 2 x 12)	3 - 38 x 286 mm (3 - 2 x 12)	4 - 38 x 286 mm (4 - 2 x 12)	4 - 38 x 337 mm* (4 - 2 x 14)	4 - 38 x 337 mm* (4 - 2 x 14)
4.88 m (16 ft.)	3 - 38 x 286 mm (3 - 2 x 12)	4 - 38 x 286 mm (4 - 2 x 12)	4 - 38 x 337 mm* (4 - 2 x 14)	4 - 38 x 337 mm* (4 - 2 x 14)	Design Req'd by Engineer
COLUMN 1	2	3	4	5	6

Notes to TABLE 4:

- 1) The lintels in this table are Spruce-Pine-Fir lumber grades 1 & 2, except those marked * which are Douglas Fir lumber grades 1 & 2.
- 2) Built-up lintels must be constructed of full length members. No splicing of members is permitted between supports.
- 3) Supported length means half the span of trusses, roof joists, or rafters supported by the lintel plus the length of the overhang beyond the lintel (see FIGURE 10).
- 4) If the supported length is between the sizes shown, use the column with the greater depth. For garages or storage sheds with a door width or supported length greater than shown on the tables, consult a Professional Engineer.
- 5) The spans shown in the table are the clear spans between the load bearing supports at each end of the lintel. To find the total length of lintel needed, add the two bearing lengths of the support to the clear span.
- 6) The minimum bearing length of the support at each end of the lintel must be 89 mm (3 1/2 in.).
- 7) Lintel sizes smaller than those shown on these tables may be used provided the lintel has been designed by a Professional Engineer and the lintel design and calculations are submitted and accepted.
- 8) The above noted lintels are not designed to carry masonry or floors above the overhead door. For these types of applications consult a Professional Engineer.
- 9) The deflection limit for lintels was set at a maximum 15 mm (0.6 in.) to ensure proper closure of garage doors.

• For Wood Lintel Substitutions please see TABLE 8 on Page 30.

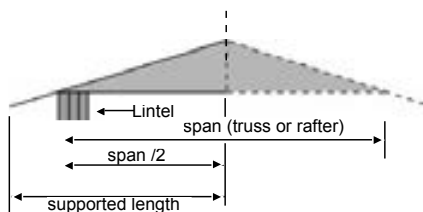
LINTEL SIZE SELECTION FOR AN OVERHEAD DOOR

Example: In order to select the correct size of lintel in cases where it is supporting the roof, three pieces of information are needed: the size of the garage, the width of the overhead door opening, and the size of the roof overhang. As an example, assume a 7.32 m x 7.32 m (24 ft x 24 ft) garage with a 2.74 m (9 ft.) overhead door opening and a 600 mm (2 ft.) overhang. Refer to TABLE 4.

Begin by selecting the row for a 2.74 m (9 ft.) overhead door opening. Next, knowing that the supported length will be half the distance of the roof span plus the overhang (see FIGURE 10), we divide the 7.32 m (24 ft.) roof span distance by 2 and add the 600 mm (2 ft.) roof overhang to get the total supported length of 4.27 m (14 ft.).

Now looking along the table to column 5 where the supported length is 4.27 m (14 ft.), we see that the proper size of lintel would be 3 - 38 x 235 mm (3 - 2 x 10). If there was no roof overhang over the door opening we would look to column 4 where the supported length is 3.66 m (12 ft.). The correct lintel size, in this case, would be 3 - 38 x 184 mm (3 - 2 x 8).

FIGURE 10 - Supported Length of Wood Lintel.



What roof framing choices are there?

In wood framing, there are basically three methods for framing roofs. They are:

1) Framing the roof with pre-manufactured trusses.

There are several local truss manufacturers and suppliers. These firms can provide detailed information regarding the proper installation of their products.

Note: When using trusses or rafters at 600 mm (24 in.) spacings with panel-type roof sheathing of less than 12.7 mm (1/2 in.) thickness, support must be provided to all edges of each roof sheathing panel including those that meet at the ridge. This can be accomplished with the use of 'H' clips as shown in FIGURE 11 and/or solid blocking.



FIGURE 11 - 'H' Clip Detail

2) Framing the roof with individual pieces of lumber (2x4s, 2x6s etc.).

This is commonly known as stick framing. FIGURE 12 shows a typical cross section of a gable roof and TABLE 5 indicates maximum rafter spans for various species and sizes of rafters. Note that FIGURE 12 makes use of collar ties as a means of reducing a full rafter span into two smaller spans. *Collar ties can only be used in this fashion when the roof slope is 1 in 3 or greater.*

If you are framing a roof containing hip or valley rafters, the hip and/or valley rafters must be not less than 50 mm (2 in.) greater in depth than the common rafters and not less than 38 mm (1 1/2 in.) in thickness.

Refer to the previously mentioned book available from Canada Mortgage and Housing for further information on roof framing.

FIGURE 12 - Roof Rafter and Collar Ties for Gable Roof.

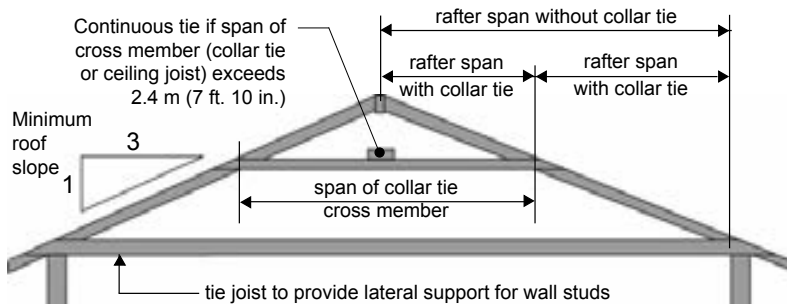


TABLE 5 - Roof Rafter Spans*
- Specified Roof Snow Load of 2.0 kPa

Nominal Rafter Size (in.)	Maximum Span (ft.-in.)			Rafter Size (mm)	Maximum Span (m)		
	Rafter Spacing				Rafter Spacing		
	12 in.	16 in.	24 in.		300 mm	400 mm	600 mm
2 x 4	8-1	7-4	6-5	38 x 89	2.47	2.24	1.96
2 x 6	12-9	11-7	10-1	38 x 140	3.89	3.53	3.08
2 x 8	16-9	15-3	12-9	38 x 184	5.11	4.64	3.89
2 x 10	21-5	19-1	15-7	38 x 235	6.52	5.82	4.75
2 x 12	25-7	22-2	18-1	38 x 286	7.80	6.76	5.52

***Note:**
Spans are calculated for use of SPF No. 1 and No. 2 lumber; if other lumber is to be used, please consult with Building Official for maximum allowable spans.

Are there any other Building Code requirements?

Yes, there are various other requirements concerning framing, sheathing materials, sheathing paper, flashing, siding, shingling, and stucco application, etc. For more information, please contact the Building Inspection department.

Who enforces all of these requirements?

The City of Steinbach's Planning and Zoning Department is assigned the responsibility of monitoring construction for compliance with the various Building Codes and By-laws. This monitoring is carried out by means of the permit approval process and periodic site inspections.

The ultimate responsibility for compliance rests with the owner and/or contractor.

Is there any way that compliance with a certain aspect of the Building Code can be waived?

The Planning and Zoning Department does not have the authority to waive the requirements but it does have the authority to accept equivalencies which meet the intent of the Building Code. If you feel you can satisfy a Building Code requirement by using an equivalent material or construction method, contact your Building Inspector.

NOTICE:

Precautions should be taken to avoid gas service lines from being enclosed in or under buildings as per CSA Z184 Gas Pipelines Systems Standards. Additionally, care should be taken when excavating to avoid disturbing other underground service lines including telephone cables and electrical power cables.

Please contact:

- City of Steinbach's Waterworks Department at (204) 346-6214 and
- Click Before You Dig online or at 1-800-940-3447 before proceeding with construction or any underground excavation.

*For more information on the regulations for
detached garages and storage sheds
please contact:*

City of Steinbach
Planning and Zoning Department
225 Reimer Avenue
Steinbach, Manitoba
R5G 2J1



Website: www.steinbach.ca

In-Person Customer Service Hours are:

Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm - All Zoning, Permits and Plan Examination services are available at 225 Reimer Avenue.
