



Town of High River

309B Macleod Trail SW

High River, Alberta

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Website: www.highriver.ca

These pamphlets have no legal status and cannot be used as an official interpretation of the various by-laws, codes and regulations in effect. Users are advised to contact the Planning and Development Department for assistance as the Town of High River accepts no responsibility to persons relying solely on this information.

Updated: November 2009

RESIDENTIAL DECKS



Planning & Development





A BUILDING PERMIT IS REQUIRED FOR DECKS:

- Attached to a building
- 2 feet above grade (or greater)
- Over 100 sq. ft.

Ground level decks that are not attached to a building do not require a building permit.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Completed building permit application.
2. Two (2) sets of deck plans on a scale of not less than 1:100 or legibly drawn.
3. Site plan indicating deck dimensions, height and setbacks from property lines and buildings.

The following details are required when you submit a building permit application:

- Floor joist type and spacing.
- Size and type of deck.
- Size of deck (length, width, height).
- Size of beams and number of piles.
- Size and spacing of columns.
- Type of columns.
- Construction of guard and handrails.
- Construction of stairs (rise and run).
- Type of foundation.

1. Guardrails are required for decks over 2 feet high. If the deck floor is over 5'11" (1.8m) above ground level, guards must be 42" (1072mm) high (there are special requirements for deck bench brackets. Please contact the Planning & Development Department for more information).
2. Guardrails around decks must be designed so that they are not greater than 4" (100mm), and that the design will not facilitate climbing.
3. A handrail must be provided for stairs with more than three (3) rises.
4. Foundation support columns for attached decks must penetrate the frost level the same depth as the building or a minimum of 4 feet.
5. Other conditions may apply once a full plan review is completed by the Safety Codes Officer.
6. Once the deck is completed, an inspection is required. Please contact the Safety Codes Administrator on (403) 652-2110 to schedule an inspection.
7. Applicants will be contacted by telephone when permits are ready for pick up. **Building permit fees are due and payable at time of application.**

**Sample Drawing:
Information:**

