



Town of La Plata Permit Guide for Homeowners

2012 IRC Decks

What you need to apply for a Deck Permit:

	Building Permit Application
	Site Location Plan (Drawn to Scale)
	Construction Details (Drawn to Scale)

Tips on Hiring Contractors:

- Hire only licensed contractors. You can easily look up license information by using the following website:
- Get at least 3 bids
- Get 3 references, and look to see if they have done other work in your area.
- Get it in writing, but before you sign the contract, make sure you completely understand the work to be performed.
- Do not make a final payment until you have received an approved final final inspection sheet from PlanChek.
- Have the contractor apply for the required permits.

Inspection Information:

PlanChek Inc. performs all of the inspections for the Town. To schedule an inspection please call 301-870-8710 at least 24 hours prior to the day you would like to have the inspection completed. The required inspections will be checked off on the bottom of your building permit application..

Additional Information:

1. If you plan to do your own work, including all of the trade work, then you may apply for the permit.
2. It would benefit you to hire a licensed contractor to perform the trade work or a licensed design professional to draw the construction details.
3. Permits are valid for 180 days, if no work has been started in 180 days the permit will expire and you will need to re-submit the permit for review and approval.

Why do I need a Permit for a Deck?

A Building Permit is required for decks in accordance with Section R507 of the 2012 International Residential Building Code and work done without a permit may be subject to Code Enforcement and costly remedies.

Obtaining a permit will also ensure that the deck is built in a safe manner, by ensuring that your project meets the minimum building code standards for safety. Inspections can reduce the risk of structural collapse and other issues that might result in costly repairs, injuries and even death.

What Should be included in the Construction Details?

- Drawing of the Deck (Drawn to Scale)
- Footing Detail
 - Footing Width
 - Footing Depth
- Post Size and height
- Deck post to deck footing connection
- Deck Beam to deck post connection
- Joist Size and orientation
- Joist bearing and lateral restraint
- Type of Materials Used
- Distance from finished grade
- Distance between posts
- Distance between joists
- Size of Beams
- Deck beam bearing details
- When a deck is attached to the structure, state method of attachment (Fastners)
- Distance between fastners
- Flashing material and thickness
- Vertical and lateral supports
- Ledger details
- Band joist details
- Ledger to band jost details
- Lateral Load and Connection Details
- Legnth and Width of the deck
- Height of a Handrail and distance between pickets
- If attaching stairs, state the tread depth and height of risers
- Additional information may be required by the Chief Executive Officer or designee.

The information provided on this sheet is only for guidance on completeing your building permit package. Additonal information may be required as part of the permit review process. A copy of the 2012 IRC is available for you to view at the Town Hall. We also encourage applicants who live in communities with a Homeowner’s Association (HOA) to obtain approval for your deck prior to submitting an application to the Town. For any questions please contact the Planning Department at 301-934-8421.