

FIRE-RETARDANT ROOF COVERINGS FOR OPEN WALKING DECKS AND SPACED ROOF CONSTRUCTION

Section 91.1503 of the Building Code requires the roof covering of every building to be fire-retardant. An exception can be applied for trellis or similar structure that has no roof covering, which is to be located on the roof deck or at ground level, serve as an accessory use to a Single Family Dwelling and comply with the following types of construction:

- A. "Open egg-crate roof" constructed of lattice members so that a sphere of 10 inches minimum in diameter can pass through. All lattice members must have a minimum nominal width of 2 inches . (see diagram #1)
- B. "Spaced roof " constructed of members running in one direction only with a minimum clear spacing between the members of not less than 4 inches. In addition, beams supporting and placed perpendicular to the members shall be spaced not less than 24" on center. All members or beams must have a minimum nominal width of 2 inches. (see diagram #2).

Section 91.1503 of the Building Code also requires the covering of the walking surface of a deck to be fire-retardant except for the following conditions:

- 1. Space below the unroofed walking deck (open or enclosed) shall have no use other than landscaping, walking surface or placement of small items such as pool equipment.
- 2. Any cantilevered balcony, provided the space below the balcony is not enclosed.

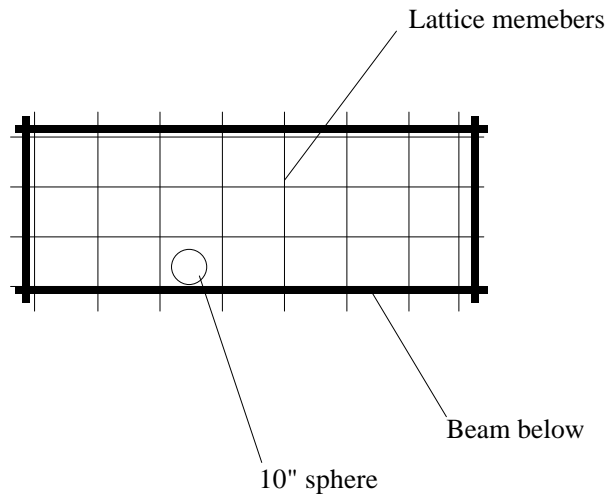


Diagram # 1 - Open egg-crate roof

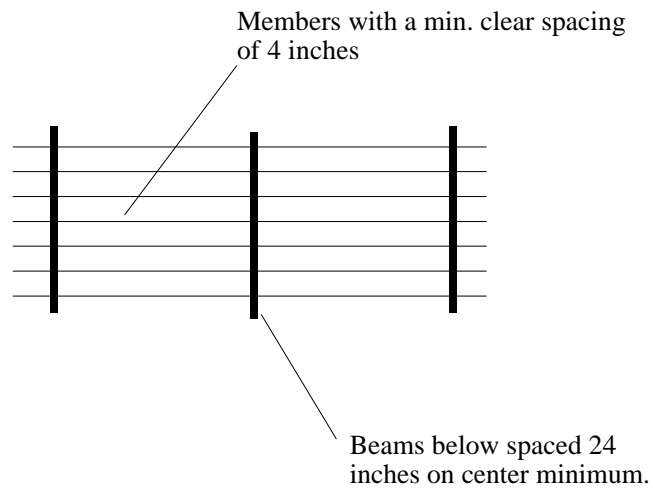


Diagram # 2 - Spaced roof