

**CITY & COUNTY OF DENVER  
COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT  
BUILDING PERMIT POLICY**

**Subject: PATIO COVERS – SINGLE AND TWO-FAMILY DWELLING UNTIS**

**Approved: Michael Roach, P.E., Building Official**

**Number: IRC AH101**

**Effective Date: August 29, 2008  
Revised: October 17, 2011**

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**Reference: IBC Appendix I, IRC Appendix H**

1. General

All patio cover projects for one and two family dwellings and townhouse dwelling units are to be reviewed by the Building Department. Submittals shall be reviewed to determine if they are patio covers (per IRC Appendix H for single family or duplex dwelling units), or if they are patio enclosures which must be treated as a room addition. Patio covers will not be approved through Alternate Methods and Materials Section 106. Patio cover walls less than 3'-0" to interior property line shall be at least a one-hour fire-rated wall assembly without openings.

2. ICC Listed Patio Covers

Systems that have been evaluated by ICC and are documented by an ICC Evaluation Report will be accepted. All components must correspond to the elements described in the ICC Evaluation Report for the system selected. Substitution or mixing of components from other systems or manufacturers is not acceptable, unless the mixed system is submitted as outlined for specially engineered patio covers. Two copies of the manufacturer's installation drawings must be submitted with color coding identifying the design path chosen for each specific patio submittal. Design path selected must reflect load requirements specified in Chapter 16 of the Denver Building Code. P.E. certification of drawings will not be required. The Building Department will review to verify proper application of the manufacturer's installation instructions, code compliance and proximity to property line.

3. Specially Engineered Patio Covers

If a contractor or owner wishes to construct a patio cover that is not covered by an ICC Evaluation Report, drawings must be submitted to the Building Department showing size, configuration, design loads, placement site and specs on structural members. Drawings must be sealed by a Colorado registered design professional accompanied by a written statement from that design professional stating that the structural design of the patio cover and enclosure walls comply with Chapter 6 and 8 of the IRC.

4. Wood Framed Patio Covers

Patio covers constructed with a conventional wood framing will not require a P.E., however plans showing framing details must be submitted to the Department for review.

5. Structural Attachment of Patio Cover to Building

When a patio cover is to be structurally supported by the building, drawings must include details of structural attachment. Structural attachment directly to brick veneer is prohibited. Structural attachment to a stud wall behind brick veneer using bolts or other fasteners extending through the brick veneer is prohibited.

Regardless of whether patio cover is an ICC listed system or a specially engineered project, if the cover is structurally supported by the rafter ends or fascia member, the following additional certification will be necessary:

- A. Method of structural attachment must be shown on the drawing and the drawing must be certified by a Colorado registered design professional.
- B. The contractor must be advised that before the job is approved by our inspection staff, the design professional must certify that the existing construction has been examined

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during erection of the patio cover and verifies that the existing material is structurally sound and the structural attachment, as actually made in the field, is acceptable.

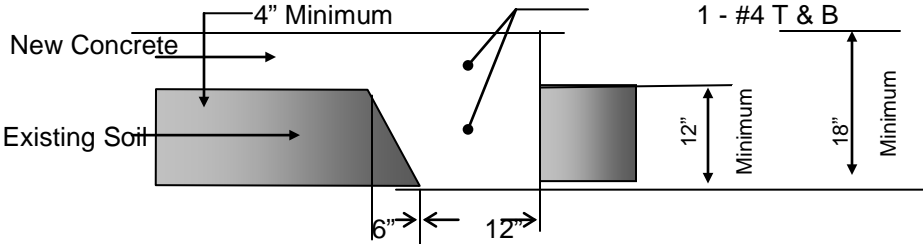
6. Foundations

See attached details for foundation information.

**PATIO COVERS  
Foundation and Anchorage Details**

- A. When the roof area supported by each column is less than 60 square feet, Figures A, B or C can be used under the following conditions:
  - 1. Total downward load is less than 2,000 pounds.
  - 2. Tributary column area is less than 60 square feet.
  - 3. Column is not located on a full depth concrete joint, nor within 1' of any joint.
  - 4. Uplift anchorage is adequate for 1,000 pounds.
  - 5. Post may be supported on a thickened edge slab. See Figure A for new slabs, and Figure B for existing slabs.
  - 6. Posts may be supported on a pad that is partially located under the existing slab. See Figure C.
  
- B. Pads or piers may be used when the roof area supported by each column is 60 square feet or greater, or when Figure A through C is not used. Pads or piers shall be designed to meet the following conditions:
  - 1. Maximum allowable soils bearing pressure specified in Table 18-1-A is not exceeded.
  - 2. The pad or piers is of sufficient size to resist uplift.
  - 3. Pier anchors are of sufficient size to resist uplift.

**NOTE:** The setting of a wood post into concrete is not allowed. Metal post may be set into concrete when positive anchorage is provided for uplift.



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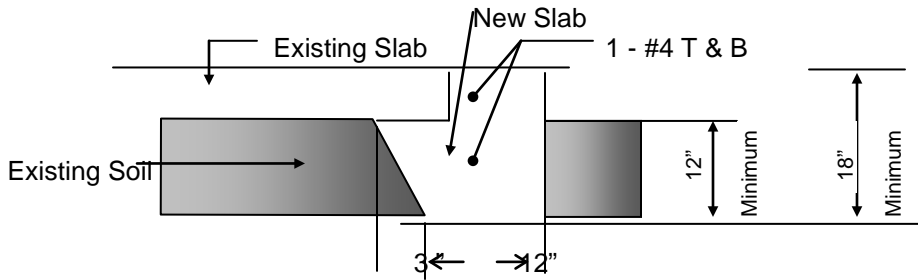
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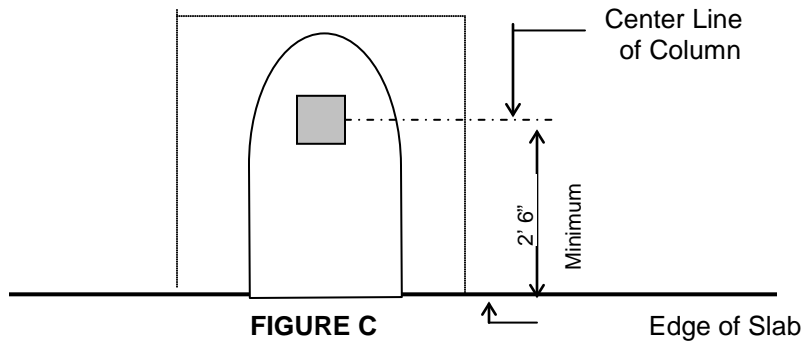
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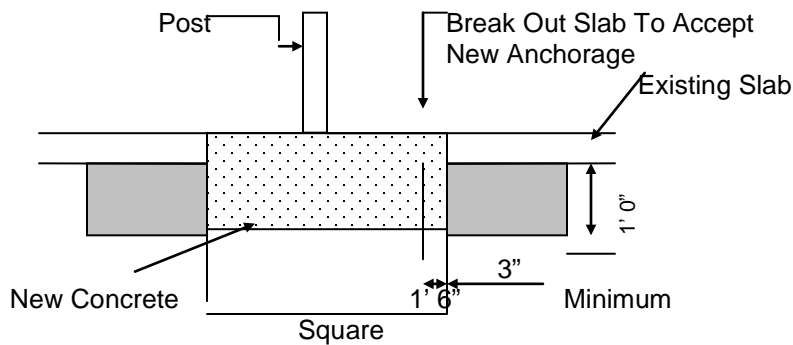
**FIGURE A  
NEW SLAB WITH THICKENED EDGE**



**FIGURE B  
EXISTING SLAB WITH THICKENED EDGE ADDED**



**FIGURE C  
PLAN**



**FIGURE D  
SECTION**

**END OF DOCUMENT**