



Refer to the Installation Guide for Residential Floors for additional information. ICC-ES EVALUATION REPORT ESR-1742

**WEB HOLE SPECIFICATIONS**  
RULES FOR CUTTING HOLES AND DUCT CHASE OPENINGS:

- The distance between the inside edge of the support and the centerline of any hole or duct chase opening shall be in compliance with the requirements of Table 1 or 2, respectively.
- I-joint top and bottom flanges must NEVER be cut, notched, or otherwise modified.
- Whenever possible, field-cut holes should be centered on the middle of the web.
- The maximum size hole or the maximum depth of a duct chase opening that can be cut into an I-joint web shall equal the clear distance between the flanges of the I-joint minus 1/4 inch. A minimum of 1/8 inch should always be

maintained between the top or bottom of the hole or opening and the adjacent I-joint flange.

- The sides of square holes or longest sides of rectangular holes should not exceed 3/4 of the diameter of the maximum round hole permitted at that location.
- Where more than one hole is necessary, the distance between adjacent hole edges shall exceed twice the diameter of the largest round hole or twice the size of the largest square hole (or twice the length of the longest side of the longest rectangular hole or duct chase opening) and each hole and duct chase opening shall be sized and located in compliance with the requirements of Tables 1 and 2, respectively.
- A knockout is **not** considered a hole, may be utilized anywhere it occurs, and may be ignored for purposes of calculating minimum distances between holes and/or duct chase openings.

- Holes measuring 1-1/2 inches or smaller shall be permitted anywhere in a cantilevered section of a joist. Holes of greater size may be permitted subject to verification.
- A 1-1/2 inch hole or smaller can be placed anywhere in the web provided that it meets the requirements of item 6 above.
- For continuous joists with more than one span, use the longest span to determine hole location in either span.
- All holes and duct chase openings shall be cut in a workman-like manner in accordance with the restrictions listed above and as illustrated in Figure 7.
- Limit three maximum size holes and one duct chase opening per span.
- A group of round holes at approximately the same location shall be permitted if they meet the requirements for a single round hole circumscribed around them.

**TABLE 1**  
**HOLE SIZES AND LOCATIONS**  
Simple or Multiple Span

Joist Series	Joist Series	Minimum Distance from Inside Face of Any Support to Center of Hole (ft - in.)														
		Round Hole Diameter (in.)														
		2	3	4	5	6	6-1/4	7	8	8-5/8	9	10	10-3/4	11	12	12-3/4
9-1/2"	NI-20	0'-6"	1'-0"	2'-6"	3'-6"	5'-6"	6'-0"	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	NI-40x	0'-6"	1'-6"	3'-0"	4'-6"	6'-0"	6'-6"	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	NI-60	1'-6"	2'-6"	4'-0"	5'-6"	7'-0"	7'-6"	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	NI-70	2'-0"	3'-6"	5'-0"	6'-6"	8'-0"	8'-6"	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	NI-80	2'-6"	3'-6"	5'-0"	6'-6"	8'-0"	8'-6"	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

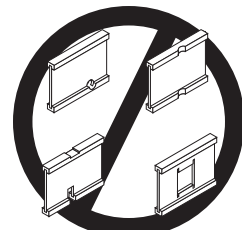
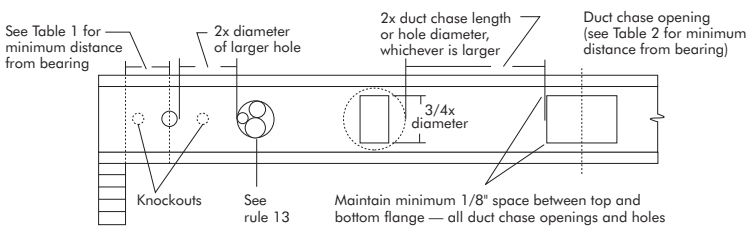
- Above table may be used for I-joint spacing of 24 inches on center or less.
- Hole location distance is measured from inside face of supports to center of hole.
- For continuous joists with more than one span, use the **longest** span to determine hole location in either span.
- Distances are based on uniformly loaded floor joists that meet the span requirements for a design live load of 40 psf and dead load of 10 psf, and a live load deflection limit of L/480. For other applications, contact your local distributor.
- The above table is based on the I-joists being used at their maximum spans. The minimum distance as given above may be reduced for shorter spans; contact your local distributor.

**TABLE 2**  
**DUCT CHASE OPENING SIZES AND LOCATIONS**  
Simple Span Only

Joist Depth	Joist Series	Min. Distance From Inside Face of Any Supports to Center of Opening (ft - in.)														
		Duct Chase Length (in.)														
		8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	24	24	24			
9-1/2"	NI-20	4'-6"	5'-0"	5'-0"	5'-6"	6'-0"	6'-6"	7'-0"	7'-6"	8'-0"	8'-6"	9'-0"	9'-0"	9'-0"	9'-0"	9'-0"
	NI-40x	5'-6"	6'-0"	6'-0"	6'-6"	7'-0"	7'-6"	8'-0"	8'-6"	9'-0"	9'-0"	9'-0"	9'-0"	9'-0"	9'-0"	9'-0"
	NI-60	5'-6"	6'-0"	6'-0"	6'-6"	7'-0"	7'-6"	8'-0"	8'-6"	9'-0"	9'-0"	9'-0"	9'-0"	9'-0"	9'-0"	9'-0"
	NI-70	5'-6"	6'-0"	6'-0"	6'-6"	7'-0"	7'-6"	8'-0"	8'-6"	9'-0"	9'-0"	9'-0"	9'-0"	9'-0"	9'-0"	9'-0"
	NI-80	5'-6"	6'-0"	6'-0"	6'-6"	7'-0"	7'-6"	8'-0"	8'-6"	9'-0"	9'-0"	9'-0"	9'-0"	9'-0"	9'-0"	9'-0"

- Above table may be used for I-joint spacing of 24 inches on center or less.
- Duct chase opening location distance is measured from inside face of supports to center of opening.
- The above table is based on simple-span joists only. For other applications, contact your local distributor.
- Distances are based on uniformly loaded floor joists that meet the span requirements for a design live load of 40 psf and dead load of 10 psf, and a live load deflection limit of L/480.
- The above table is based on the I-joists being used at their maximum spans. The minimum distance as given above may be reduced for shorter spans; contact your local distributor.

**FIGURE 7**  
**FIELD-CUT HOLE LOCATOR**



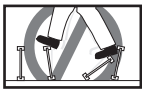
Knockouts are prescored holes provided for the contractor's convenience to install electrical or small plumbing lines. They are 1-1/2 inches in diameter, and are spaced 15 inches on center along the length of the I-joint. Where possible, it is preferable to use knockouts instead of field-cut holes.

**Never** drill, cut or notch the flange, or over-cut the web.

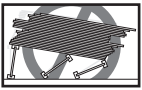
Holes in webs should be cut with a sharp saw.

For rectangular holes, avoid over-cutting the corners, as this can cause unnecessary stress concentrations. Slightly rounding the corners is recommended. Starting the rectangular hole by drilling a 1-inch diameter hole in each of the four corners and then making the cuts between the holes is another good method to minimize damage to the I-joint.

**SAFETY AND CONSTRUCTION PRECAUTIONS**



Do not walk on I-joists until fully fastened and braced, or serious injuries can result.



Never stack building materials over unshathed I-joists. Once sheathed, do not over-stress I-joists with concentrated loads from building materials.

**WARNING:** I-joists are unstable until completely installed with panels fully fastened to the top flanges.

**AVOID ACCIDENTS BY FOLLOWING THESE IMPORTANT GUIDELINES:**

- Brace and nail each I-joint as it is installed, using hangers, blocking panels, rim board, and/or cross-bridging at joist ends.
- When the building is completed, the floor sheathing will provide lateral support for the top flanges of the I-joists. Until this sheathing is applied, temporary bracing, or temporary sheathing must be applied to prevent I-joint rollover or buckling.
  - Temporary bracing or struts must be 1x4 inch minimum, at least 8 feet long and spaced no more than 8 feet on center, and must be secured with a minimum of two 8d nails fastened to the top surface of each I-joint. Nail the bracing to a lateral restraint at the end of each bay. Lap ends of adjoining bracing over at least two I-joists.
  - Or, sheathing (temporary or permanent) can be nailed to the top flange of the first 4 feet of I-joists at the end of the bay.
- For cantilevered I-joists, brace top and bottom flanges, and brace ends with closure panels, rim board, or cross-bridging.
- Install and nail permanent sheathing to each I-joint before placing loads on the floor system. Then, stack building materials over beams or walls only.
- Never install a damaged I-joint.

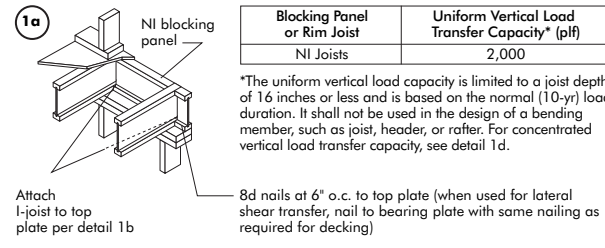
Improper storage or installation, failure to follow applicable building codes, failure to follow span ratings for Nordic I-joists, failure to use allowable hole sizes and locations, or failure to use web stiffeners when required can result in serious accidents. Follow these installation guidelines carefully.



**PRODUCT WARRANTY**

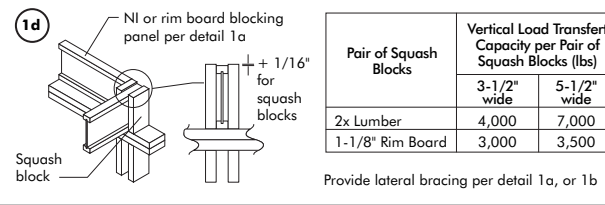
Chantiers Chibougamau guarantees that, in accordance with our specifications, Nordic products are free from manufacturing defects in material and workmanship.

Furthermore, Chantiers Chibougamau warrants that our products, when utilized in accordance with our handling and installation instructions, will meet or exceed our specifications for the lifetime of the structure.



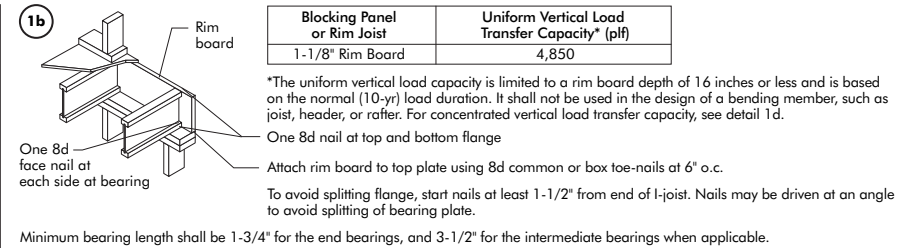
Blocking Panel or Rim Joist	Uniform Vertical Load Transfer Capacity* (plf)
NI Joists	2,000

\*The uniform vertical load capacity is limited to a joist depth of 16 inches or less and is based on the normal (10-yr) load duration. It shall not be used in the design of a bending member, such as joist, header, or rafter. For concentrated vertical load transfer capacity, see detail 1d.



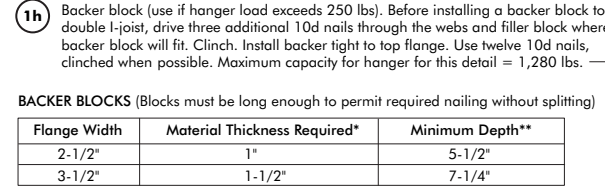
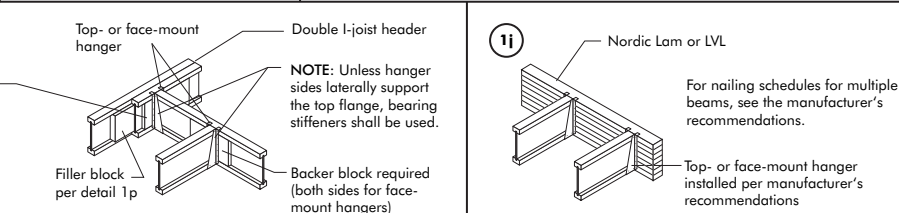
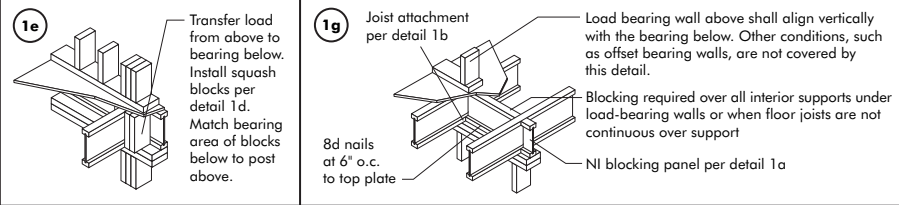
Pair of Squash Blocks	Vertical Load Transfer Capacity per Pair of Squash Blocks (lbs)
3-1/2" wide	4,000
5-1/2" wide	7,000
1-1/8" Rim Board	3,000
	3,500

Provide lateral bracing per detail 1a, or 1b



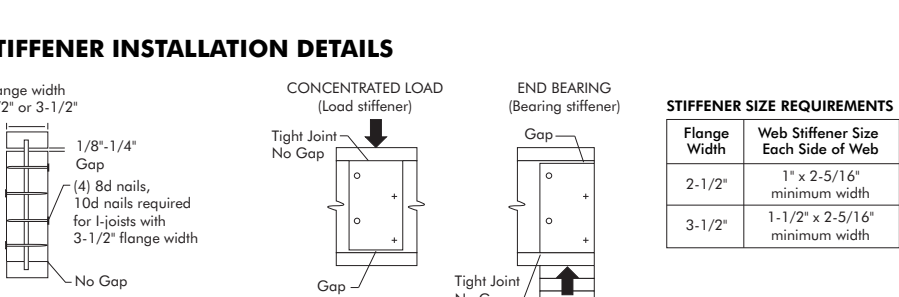
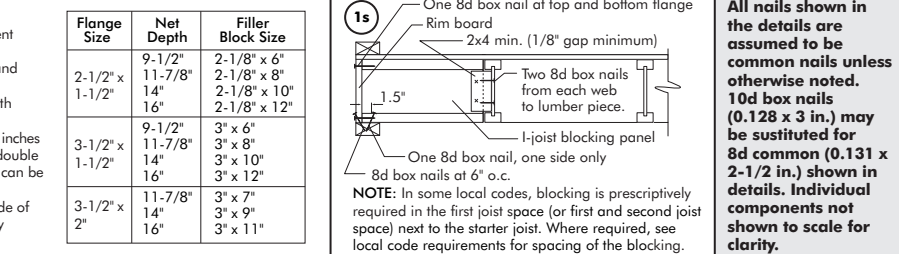
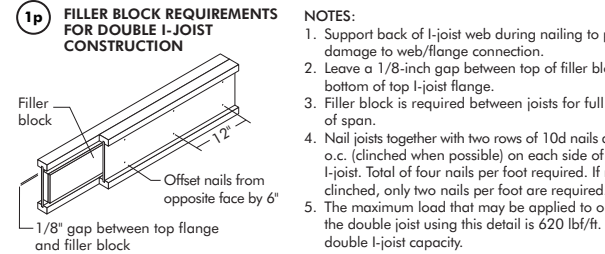
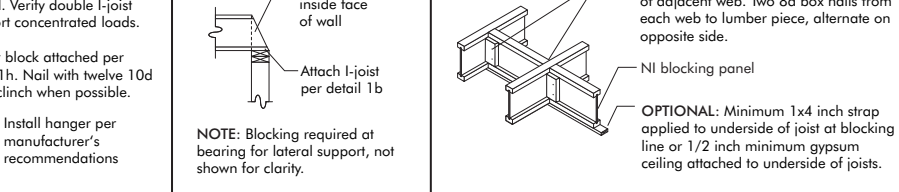
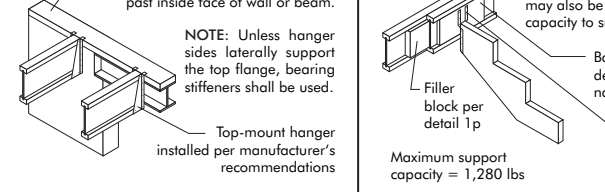
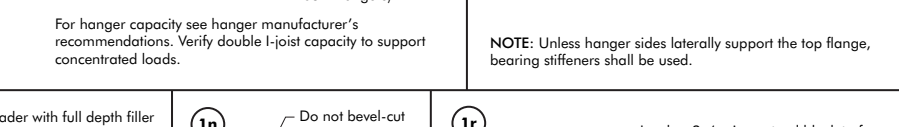
Blocking Panel or Rim Joist	Uniform Vertical Load Transfer Capacity* (plf)
1-1/8" Rim Board	4,850

\*The uniform vertical load capacity is limited to a rim board depth of 16 inches or less and is based on the normal (10-yr) load duration. It shall not be used in the design of a bending member, such as joist, header, or rafter. For concentrated vertical load transfer capacity, see detail 1d.



Flange Width	Material Thickness Required*	Minimum Depth**
2-1/2"	1"	5-1/2"
3-1/2"	1-1/2"	7-1/4"

\* Minimum grade for backer block material shall be Utility grade S-P-F (south) or better for solid sawn lumber and Rated Sheathing grade for wood structural panels.  
\*\* For face-mount hangers use net joist depth minus 3-1/4" for joists with 1-1/2" thick flanges. For 2" thick flanges use net depth minus 4-1/4".

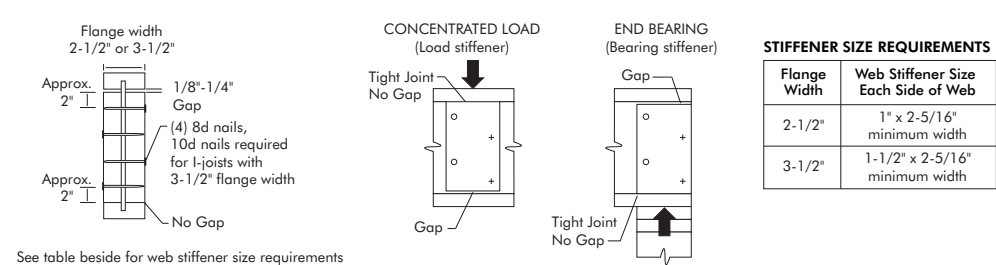


**WEB STIFFENERS**

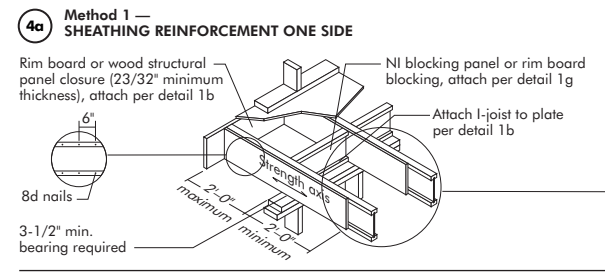
**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- A **bearing stiffener** is required in all engineered applications with design end reactions greater than 1,550 lbs, with the exception of NI-90x, which requires bearing stiffeners when end reaction values exceed 1,885 lbs. The gap between the stiffener and the flange is at the top.
- A **bearing stiffener** is required when the I-joint is supported in a hanger and the sides of the hanger do not extend up to, and support, the top flange. The gap between the stiffener and flange is at the top.
- A **load stiffener** is required at locations where a concentrated load greater than 1,500 lbs is applied to the top flange between supports, or in the case of a cantilever, anywhere between the cantilever tip and the support. These values are for normal duration of load, and may be adjusted for other load durations as permitted by the code. The gap between the stiffener and the flange is at the bottom.

**FIGURE 2**  
**WEB STIFFENER INSTALLATION DETAILS**



**CANTILEVER DETAILS FOR VERTICAL BUILDING OFFSET**



**NOTE:** APA RATED SHEATHING 48/24 (minimum thickness 23/32") required on sides of joist. Depth shall match the full height of the joist. Nail with 8d nails at 6" o.c., top and bottom flange. Install with face grain horizontal. Attach I-joint to plate at all supports per detail 1b. Verify reinforced I-joint capacity.

**RIM BOARD INSTALLATION DETAILS**

