

WEB STIFFENER REQUIREMENTS

A web stiffener is a block of plywood, OSB, or even a 2x4 that is added to stiffen the I-joist's web, increase the bearing surface between the web and the flange, and provide additional support for a hanger or other connector. Web stiffeners are common with certain types of joist hanger installations, particularly in roof systems. They are typically placed at the end of the I-joist, between the flanges and against both sides of the web. When used at end bearings, web stiffeners should be installed tight against the bottom flange of the I-joist, but with a minimum 1/8" gap between the top of the stiffener and the bottom of the top flange.

When designed in accordance with the load/span conditions set forth in the tables in this guide, RFPPI-Joists do not require web stiffeners, with the following exceptions:

- When sides of the hangers do not laterally brace the top flange of each I-joist, as shown in Figures on pages 20 & 21.
- For all engineered applications with design end reactions greater than 1550 lbs.
- Bird mouth cuts for roof joists.
- When I-joists are designed to support concentrated loads greater than 1000 lbs. applied to the I-joist's top flange between supports. In these applications **ONLY**, the gap between the web stiffener and the flange shall be at the bottom flange. (See Figure B below.)

Web stiffeners may be cut in the field as required for the application.

FIGURE B

RFPPI-JOIST WEB STIFFENER REQUIREMENTS

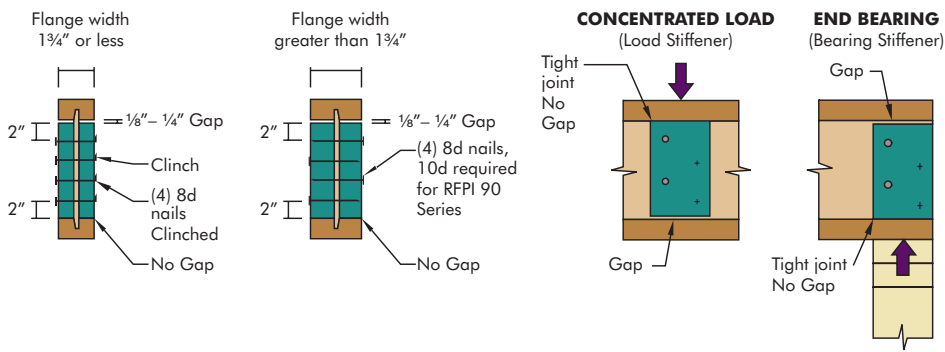


TABLE B

WEB STIFFENER SIZE REQUIRED

RFPPI Flange Width	Web Stiffener Size Each Side of Web
1 1/2"	15/32" x 2 5/16" minimum width
1 3/4"	19/32" x 2 5/16" minimum width
2 5/16"	1" x 2 5/16" minimum width
3 1/2"	1 1/2" x 2 5/16" minimum width