

DEWALT®

CARPENTRY AND FRAMING

COMPLETE HANDBOOK

GARY BRACKETT



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**DeWALT Carpentry and Framing
Complete Handbook**

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Library of Congress Control Number: 2011921219

ISBN-13: 978-1-1111-3613-0

ISBN-10: 1-1111-3613-0

eISBN-10: 1-1330-1879-3

Delmar5 Maxwell Drive
Clifton Park, NY 12065-2919
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CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	v
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	vi
CHAPTER 1 – HOUSES	1
HOUSES	2
HOUSE TYPES	2
SPACE AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY	7
EFFICIENCY AND HOUSE SHAPE	11
CHAPTER 2 – FOUNDATIONS	13
FOUNDATIONS	14
FOOTING BASICS	15
FOUNDATION TYPES	15
SQUARING AND CHECKING FOR SQUARE	21
CHAPTER 3 – SILLS, POSTS, AND GIRDERS	23
SILLS, POSTS, AND GIRDERS	24
SILL PLATES	24
GIRDERS	27
POSTS	29
CHAPTER 4 – FLOOR FRAMING	33
FLOOR FRAMING	34
METHODS OF ASSEMBLY	35
BASIC DESCRIPTION OF LAYOUT	38
DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF LAYOUT	39
FRAMING PROCEDURES AT THE SILL AND OPTIONS AT THE GIRDER	45
BRIDGING/BLOCKING	48
MAKING WOOD BRIDGING	49
NOTCHING AND BORING HOLES IN JOISTS	50
SUB-FLOOR APPLICATION	51

CANTILEVERED AREAS	53
ENGINEERED LUMBER OPTIONS	55
CHAPTER 5 – WALL FRAMING	61
WALL FRAMING	62
WALL/PARTITION LAYOUT	63
WALL TYPES	63
STEP-BY-STEP PROCESS FOR WALL LAYOUT	65
FRAMING DETAILS	69
CHAPTER 6 – RAFTERS/ROOF FRAMING	95
RAFTERS/ROOF FRAMING	96
THE GABLE ROOF	97
COMMON RAFTER LAYOUT	104
ASSEMBLY OF A GABLE ROOF	114
SPECIAL CASES FOR COMMON RAFTERS	117
GABLE STUDS	124
THE HIP ROOF	126
LAYOUT OF HIP RAFTERS	131
LAYOUT OF THE VALLEY RAFTER	137
OTHER HIP ROOF COMPONENTS	142
ASSEMBLY OF THE HIP ROOF	149
THE RAFTER SQUARE	151
COMPLEX ROOF HIP/VALLEY AND RIDGE INTERSECTIONS	152
UNEQUAL SLOPING ROOFS	161
DORMERS	162
OCTAGON ROOF FRAMING	166
TRUSS CONSTRUCTION	173
CHAPTER 7 – SPECIAL TOPICS	179
STAIRS	180
STAIR CALCULATIONS	182
STAIR LAYOUT	184
MULTIPLE SOLUTIONS	187
PORCH/DECK FRAMING	197
APPENDIX	209
INDEX	227

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this book is to provide information and instruction on frame construction. It is not my desire to change the way the reader does his or her work unless it is currently inefficient. Hopefully the instructional text complimenting the vast array of diagrams will give the reader confidence to build more-challenging projects.

In my experiences I've noticed that carpenters are creatures of habit and are resistant to change, except when it will save them time and effort. Three carpenters can have three different opinions on the best way to approach a task, and they may all be good methods. The intent of this book is not necessarily to change one's current building habits; after all, some of the readers may be using excellent techniques already that are not mentioned in this book. The intent is to provide a good method to follow where one may not currently have an adequate understanding of a particular process. Explanations in many cases are offered so the reader will understand why a particular methodology is used. Furthermore, knowing different methods of completing a task is comparable to having extra tools in a toolbox—some will work better than others in given situations.

With so many different materials, manufacturers, and techniques available, this book would be enormous in size if it took every variation into consideration. The focus, in this case, is on the well-used practices of frame construction.

Building codes vary regionally; therefore carpenters need to be familiar with the particular codes that have been adopted in their areas. Some of the framing illustrated within may be perfectly acceptable in most areas but unacceptable in others. Many cautions pertaining to building codes are referenced throughout this book—**know your local codes**. The code enforcement officers I have dealt with have been extremely helpful and tend to respect the person who is asking the questions. It is cheaper and easier to ask a question before starting than to fix a mistake later on.

Influences for subject matter in this book include information I've absorbed during the past 25+ years. Sources include: personal experiences as a general contractor; many books, magazines, and trade journals; internet information; and discussions with professionals including my colleagues at SUNY Delhi.

Carpenters have been around for thousands of years. Because of this, it is unlikely that any information in this book is purely original. However, I believe I have presented it in an original format that is easily digested and useful.

Comments? Please contact the author brackegw@delhi.edu

Happy building...

Gary Brackett

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- My parents for always encouraging me no matter what
- Vinnie and Steve for giving me my first carpentry related job
- Tim for patiently teaching me
- My colleagues at SUNY Delhi for giving me an opportunity to teach others
- Bill for his insight and suggestions
- Floyd for steering me on the path of authorship and sharing his personal resources
- Every person from Delmar Cengage Learning who was involved with this project
- My wife and two daughters for always supporting and loving me