

Beam Design

1. Beam Data

Load Type: Uniform Dist. Load
Support: Simple Beam
Beam Type: Sawn Lumber
Species: Spruce-Pine-Fir
Grade: SPF No.2

 Size:
 2 x 4

 Design Span (L):
 4.00 ft.

 Clear Span:
 3.88 ft.

 Total Span:
 4.13 ft.

 Bearing (lb):
 1.5 in.

 Quantity (N):
 1

2. Design Loads

Live Load: 70 plf
Dead Load: 15 plf
Selfweight: 4.2 lbs
Dist. Selfweight: 1.06 plf
Total Weight: 4.4 lbs

3. Design Options

Lateral Support: braced Defl. Limits: 180|120 Load Duration: 1.15 Exposure: dry $T \le 100$ °F Temperature: Orientation: Horizontal Incised Lumber: No Rep. Members: Yes

4. Design Assumptions and Notes

Code Standard: IBC 2015, NDS 2015 Bending Stress: Parallel to Grain

Notes:

5. Adjustment Factors

Factor	Description	Fb	Ft	$F_{\mathbf{v}}$	Fc	Fc⊥	E/E _{min}
C_{D}	Load Duration Factor	1.15	1.15	1.15	1.15	-	_
$C_{\mathbf{M}}$	Wet Service Factor	1 ^b	1	1	1 ^c	1	1
Ct	Temperature Factor	1	1	1	1	1	1
C_{L}	Beam Stability Factor	1	-	-	-	-	-
C_{F}	Size Factor	1.5	1.5	-	1.15	-	-
C_{fu}	Flat Use Factor	1.1 ^d	-	-	-	_	-
Ci	Incising Factor	1	1	1	1	1	1
Cr	Repetitive Member Factor	1.15	-	-	-	-	-

- a) Adjustment factors per AWC NDS 2015 and NDS 2015 Supplement.
- b) When $(F_b)(C_F) \le 1,150$ psi, $C_M = 1.0$.
- c) When $(F_c)(C_F) \le 750 \text{ psi}$, $C_M = 1.0$.
- d) Only applies when sawn lumber or glulam beams are loaded in bending about the y-y axis.

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6. Beam Calculations

Determine reference design values, sectional properties and self weight of beam:

 $A = b \times d$

$$S_x = \frac{bd^2}{6}, \ S_y = \frac{b^2d}{6}$$

$$I_x = \frac{bd^3}{12}, \ I_y = \frac{b^3d}{12}$$

where:

b = Breadth of rectangular beam in bending (in.)

d = Depth of rectangular beam in bending (in.)

A = Cross sectional area of beam (in.²)

 S_X = Section modulus about the X-X axis (in.³)

 S_y = Section modulus about the Y-Y axis (in.³)

 I_X = Moment of inertia about the X-X axis (in. 4)

 $I_y = Moment of inertia about the Y-Y axis (in.⁴)$

b = 1.500 in.

d = 3.500 in.

$$A = 1.500 \times 3.500 = 5.25 \text{ in.}^2$$

$$S_x = (1.500)(3.500)^2/6 = 3.06 \text{ in.}^3$$

$$S_V = (1.500)^2 (3.500)/6 = 1.31 \text{ in.}^3$$

$$I_x = (1.500)(3.500)^3/12 = 5.36 \text{ in.}^4$$

$$I_v = (1.500)^3 (3.500)/12 = 0.98 \text{ in.}^4$$

Reference Design Values from Table 4A NDS Supplement (Reference Design Values for Visually Graded Dimension Lumber, 2" - 4" thick).

Species & Grade	Fb	Ft	$F_{\mathbf{v}}$	Fc⊥	Fc	Е	Emin	G
SPF No.2	875	450	135	425	1150	1400000	510000	0.42

The following formula shall be used to determine the density of wood (lbs/ft³. (NDS Supplement Sec. 3.1.3)

$$\rho_w = 62.4 \left[\frac{G}{1 + G(0.009)(m.c)} \right] \left[1 + \frac{m.c.}{100} \right]$$

where:

 $\rho_{\rm W}$ = Density of wood (lbs/ft³

G = Specific gravity of wood (dimensionless)

m.c. = Moisture content of wood (percentile)

G = 0.42

m.c. = 19 % (Max. moisture content at dry service conditions)

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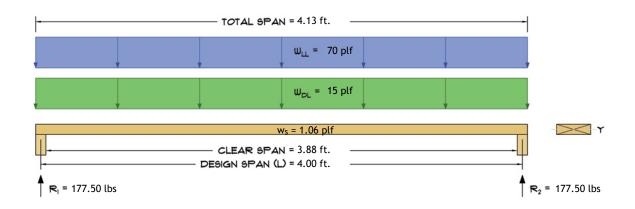
$$\rho_w = 62.4 \left\lceil \frac{0.42}{1 + 0.42(0.009)(19)} \right\rceil \left\lceil 1 + \frac{19}{100} \right\rceil = 29.10 \text{ lbs/ft}^3$$

 $\begin{aligned} & Volume_{total} = N[A \ x \ (L + l_b)] = 1 \ x \ [5.25 \ x \ (48.00 + 1.5)] \ x \ (12 \ in./ft.)^3 = 0.15 \ ft^3 \\ & Volume_{span} = N[A \ x \ L] = 1 \ x \ [5.25 \ x \ 48.00] \ x \ (12 \ in./ft.)^3 = 0.15 \ ft^3 \end{aligned}$

Total Weight (W_T) = ρ_W x Volume_{total} = 29.10 x 0.15 = 4.4 lbs Self Weight (W_S) = ρ_W x Volume_{span} = 29.10 x 0.15 = 4.2 lbs

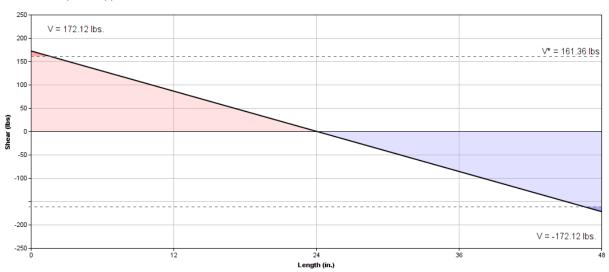
Distributed Self Weight (w_s) =
$$\frac{W_S}{L} = \frac{4.2}{4.00}$$
 = 1.06 plf

Load, Shear and Moment Diagrams:



Beam - Shear Diagram

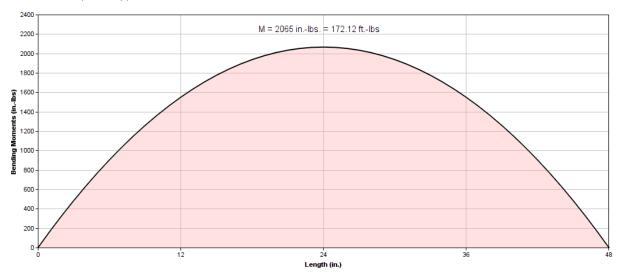
Shear Equation: V(x) = -7.17x + 172.1



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Beam - Moment Diagram

Moment Equation: $M(x) = -3.59x^2 + 172.1x$



1.) Bending:

Members subject to bending stresses shall be proportioned so that the actual bending stress or moment shall not exceed the adjusted bending design value:

$$f_b \leq F_{b} \text{'} \ \textit{(NDS Sec. 3.3.1)}$$

where:

$$f_b = M / S$$

$$F_{b'} = F_{b}(C_{D})(C_{M})(C_{t})(C_{L})(C_{F})(C_{fu})(C_{i})(C_{r})$$

The depth of the beam does not exceed its breadth. Laterial stability is not a consideration:

 C_L = Beam Stability Factor = 1.0

$$F_{by'} = (875)(1.15)(1)(1)(1)(1.5)(1.1)(1)(1.15) = 1909.4 \text{ psi}$$

$$\mathbf{f_b} = \frac{M}{N \times S_y} = \frac{2065}{1 \times 1.31} = 1573.7 \text{ psi}$$

$$f_b = 1573.7 \ psi < F_{by}{}' = 1909.4 \ psi \ (CSI = 0.82) \ ? \ \textbf{OK}$$

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2.) Shear:

Members subject to shear stresses shall be proportioned so that the actual shear stress parallel to grain or shear force at any cross section of the bending member shall not exceed the adjusted shear design value:

$$f_v \le F_{v'}$$
 (NDS Sec. 3.4.1)

where:

$$\mathbf{f_v} = \frac{3V}{2A}$$

$$F_{v'} = F_{v}(C_{D})(C_{M})(C_{t})(C_{i})$$

$$F_{vy'} = (135)(1.15)(1)(1)(1) = 155.25 \text{ psi}$$

Shear Reduction: For beams supported by full bearing on one surface and loads applied to the opposite surface, uniformly distributed loads within a distance, d, from supports equal to the depth of the bending member shall be pemitted to be ignored. For beams supported by full bearing on one surface and loads applied to the opposite surface, concentrated loads within a distance equal to the depth of the bending member from supports shall be permitted to be multiplied by x/d where x is the distance from the beam support face to the load. See NDS 2015, Figure 3C.

$$\mathbf{f_{v}*} = \frac{3V^*}{2(N\times A)} = \frac{3(161.36)}{2(1\times 5.25)} = \mathbf{46.10}\;\mathbf{psi}$$

$$f_v$$
* = 46.10 psi < F_{vv} ' = 155.25 psi (CSI = 0.30) ? **OK**

No Reduction in Shear (conservative):

$$\mathbf{f_v} = \frac{3V}{2(N \times A)} = \frac{3(172.12)}{2(1 \times 5.25)} = 49.18 \text{ psi}$$

$$f_v = 49.18 \text{ psi} < F_{vy'} = 155.25 \text{ psi} \text{ (CSI} = 0.32)$$
 ? **OK**

3.) Deflection:

Bending deflections calculated per standard method of engineering mechanics for live load and total load:

LL Allowable: L/180 TL Allowable: L/120

$$E_y' = E_y(C_M)(C_t)(C_i) = 1400000(1)(1)(1) = 1400000 \text{ psi}$$

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$$\Delta_{\rm LL} = \frac{5w_{LL}L^4}{384E_y'(N\times I_y)} = \frac{5(70)(4.000)^4}{384(1400000)(1\times0.98)} \times \left(12\frac{in.}{ft.}\right)^3 = 0.29 \ {\rm in}.$$

$$(L/d)_{LL} = 48.00 / 0.29 = 164$$

$$\Delta_{LL} = 0.29 \text{ in} = L/164 > L/180$$
 ? **NG**

$$\Delta_{\rm TL} = \frac{5(w_{TL}+w_s)L^4}{384E_y'(N\times I_y)} = \frac{5(85+1.06)(4.000)^4}{384(1400000)(1\times0.98)} \times \left(12\frac{in.}{ft.}\right)^3 = 0.36 \ {\rm in.}$$

$$(L/d)_{TL} = 48.00 / 0.36 = 133$$

$$\Delta_{TL} = 0.36 \text{ in} = L/133 < L/120$$
 ? **OK**

4.) Bearing:

Members subject to bearing stresses perpendicular to the grain shall be proportioned so that the actual compressive stress perpendicular to grain shall be based on the net bearing area and shall not exceed the adjusted compression design value perpendicular to grain:

$$f_{c\perp} \leq F_{c\perp}$$
' (NDS Sec. 3.10.2)

where:

$$f_{c\perp} = \frac{R}{A_b}$$

$$F_{c\perp}' = F_{c\perp}(C_M)(C_t)(C_i)$$

$$F_{c \perp v}' = (425)(1)(1)(1) = 425.00 \text{ psi}$$

$$A_b = d \times l_b = 3.5 \times 1.5 = 5.25 \text{ in}^2$$

$$\mathbf{f_{c}}_{\perp} = \frac{R}{N \times A_b} = \frac{177.50}{1 \times 5.25} = 33.8 \text{ psi}$$

$$f_{c\perp} = 33.8 \text{ psi} < F_{c\perp v}' = 425.00 \text{ psi} \text{ (CSI} = 0.08) ? OK$$

*Disclaimer: The calculations produced herein are for initial design and estimating purposes only. The calculations and drawings presented do not constitute a fully engineered design. All of the potential load cases required to fully design an actual structure may not be provided by this calculator. For the design of an actual structure, a registered and licensed professional should be consulted as per IRC 2012 Sec. R802.10.2 and designed according to the minimum requirements of ASCE 7-10. The beam calculations provided by this online tool are for educational and illustrative purposes only. Medeek Design assumes no liability or loss for any designs presented and does not guarantee fitness for use.

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