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## Building & Planning

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### Design Criteria

#### What design criteria do I need to meet?

The State of Washington mandates enforcement of the 2012 International Building and Residential Codes. Cowlitz County adopts these codes with the following design criteria:

Basic Wind Speed, for residential structures V: 85 miles per hour, for non-residential structures, reference IBC Section 1609

Seismic Design Category: D-1

Frost Depth: 12 inches

Winter Design Temp.: 22 F degrees

Mean Annual Temp.: 51.5 F degrees

Ground Snow Load: Per Table A

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TABLE A

Elevation	Minimum Snow Load
200 or less	20
201-400	30
401-700	35
701-1000	45
1001-1300	55
1301-1600	65
1601-1900	75
1901 +	80

Minimum snow loads  
for elevations in excess  
of 2000 ft shall be  
approved by the  
Building Official

