

Important Information and General Notes

General Notes

These general notes are provided to ensure proper installation of Simpson Strong-Tie Company Inc. products and must be followed fully.

- Simpson Strong-Tie Company Inc. reserves the right to change specifications, designs and models without notice or liability for such changes.
- Steel used for each Simpson Strong-Tie® product is individually selected based on the product's steel specifications, including strength, thickness, formability, finish and weldability. Contact Simpson Strong-Tie for steel information on specific products.
- Unless otherwise noted, dimensions are in inches, loads are in pounds.
- Unless otherwise noted, welds, screws, bolts and nails may not be combined to achieve highest load value. 0.131" x 2½", 0.148" x 3" and 0.162" x 3½" specify common nails that meet the requirements of ASTM F1667. When a shorter nail is specified, it will be noted (for example 0.131" x 1½"). Refer to Simpson Strong-Tie Nailing Guide, NDS (National Design Specification) and ASTM F1667 (American Society of Testing and Materials) for more nail info.
- Do not overload. Do not exceed catalog allowable loads, which would jeopardize the connection.
- Unless otherwise noted, allowable loads are for Douglas Fir-Larch under continuously dry conditions. Allowable loads for other species or conditions must be adjusted according to the code. This chart shows specific gravity and perpendicular-to-grain compression capacities for the different wood species:

Species	F _{c⊥}	Specific Gravity
Douglas Fir-Larch (DF)	625 psi	0.50
Southern Pine (SP)	565 psi	0.55
Spruce-Pine-Fir (SPF)	425 psi	0.42
Spruce-Pine-Fir South (SPF-S)	335 psi	0.36
Hem Fir (HF)	405 psi	0.43
Glulam	650 psi	0.50
LVL (DF/SP)	750 psi	0.50
LSL (E = 1.3 x 10 ⁶)	680 psi	0.50
LSL (E ≥ 1.5 x 10 ⁶)	880 psi	0.50
Parallam® PSL	750 psi	0.50

- Simpson Strong-Tie Company Inc. will manufacture non-catalog products provided prior approval is obtained and an engineering drawing is included with the order. Steel specified on the drawings as ¼", ⅜" and ½" will be 11 ga. (0.120"), 7 ga. (0.179") and 3 ga. (0.239"), respectively. The minimum yield and tensile strengths are 33 ksi and 52 ksi, respectively.
- All references to bolts are for structural quality through bolts (not lag screws or carriage bolts) equal to or better than ASTM Standard A307, Grade A.
- Unless otherwise noted, bending steel in the field may cause fractures at the bend line. Fractured steel will not carry load and must be replaced.
- A fastener that splits the wood will not take the design load. Evaluate splits to determine if the connection will perform as required. Dry wood may split more easily and should be evaluated as required. If wood tends to split, consider pre-boring holes with diameters not exceeding 0.75 of the nail diameter (2015/2018 NDS 12.1.5.3). Use a ⅜" bit for Strong-Drive® SDS Heavy-Duty Connector screws and a ⅜" bit for Strong-Drive SD9/SD10 Connector screws.
- Wood shrinks and expands as it loses and gains moisture, particularly perpendicular to its grain. Take wood shrinkage into account when designing and installing connections. Simpson Strong-Tie manufactures products to fit common dry lumber dimensions. If you need a connector with dimensions other than those listed in this catalog, Simpson Strong-Tie may be able to vary connector dimensions; contact Simpson Strong-Tie. The effects of wood shrinkage are increased in multiple lumber connections, such as floor-to-floor installations. This may result in the vertical rod nuts becoming loose, requiring post-installation tightening. (Reference ICC-ES ESR-2320 for information on Take-up Devices.)
- Top flange hangers may cause unevenness. Possible remedies should be evaluated by a professional and include using a face-mount hanger, and routing the beam or cutting the subfloor to accommodate the top flange thickness.
- Built-up lumber (multiple members) must be fastened together to act as one unit to resist the applied load (excluding the connector fasteners). This must be determined by the Designer.
- Some model configurations may differ from those shown in this catalog. Contact Simpson Strong-Tie for details.
- Hanger Options (Simpson Strong-Tie Hanger Options Matrix and Hanger Option General Notes pp. 97–99) — some combinations of hanger options are not available. In some cases, combinations of these options may not be installable. Horizontal loads induced by sloped joists must be resisted by other members in the structural system. A qualified Designer must always evaluate each connection, including carried and carrying member limitations, before specifying the product. Fill all fastener holes with fastener types specified in the tables, unless otherwise noted. Hanger configurations, height and fastener schedules may vary from the tables depending on joist size, skew and slope. See the allowable table load for the non-modified hanger, and adjust as indicated. Gauge may vary from that specified depending on the manufacturing process used.
- Simpson Strong-Tie will calculate the net height for a sloped seat. The customer must provide the H1 joist height before slope.
- Truss plates shown are the responsibility of the Truss Designer.
- Do not weld products listed in this catalog unless this publication specifically identifies a product as acceptable for welding, or unless specific approval for welding is provided in writing by Simpson Strong-Tie. Some steels have poor weldability and a tendency to crack when welded. Cracked steel will not carry load and must be replaced. See Simpson Strong-Tie Hanger Options Matrix and Hanger Option General Notes on pp. 97–99 for hangers that may be welded.
- Unless noted otherwise, all references to standard-cut washers refer to Type A plain washers (W) conforming to the dimensions shown in ASME B18.22.1 for the appropriate rod size in accordance with 2015/2018 NDS Appendix L. Some products require SAE narrow washers (N) to fit in a tight space and are noted accordingly.
- To achieve tabulated values for embedded concrete/masonry products, full consolidation of concrete or grout is required whether mounted to the form prior to the pour or wet set.

Important Information and General Notes

General Instructions for the Installer

These general instructions for the installer are provided to ensure proper selection and installation of Simpson Strong-Tie Company Inc. products and must be followed carefully. These general instructions are in addition to the specific installation instructions and notes provided for each particular product, all of which should be consulted prior to and during installation of Simpson Strong-Tie Company Inc. products.

- a. All specified fasteners must be installed according to the instructions in this catalog. Incorrect fastener quantity, size, placement, type, material, or finish may cause the connection to fail. Prior to using a particular fastener, please consult [Connector Fastener types on pp. 21–22](#).
 - Larger-diameter fasteners may be substituted for smaller-diameter fasteners in connectors provided the larger fastener does not cause splitting in the wood member and the connector holes are not enlarged.
 - Simpson Strong-Tie Strong Drive® SD Connector screws are available for use with our connectors. These are designed to replace nails in certain products. See pp. 335–337 for information. Screws not manufactured by Simpson Strong-Tie are not supported in our products.
- b. Fill all fastener holes as specified in the installation instructions for that product. Refer to p. 20 for the requirements of the various shapes of fastener hole.
- c. Do not overdrive nails. Overdriven nails reduce shear capacity.
- d. [Products shall be installed for the use specified](#). Use the materials specified in the installation instructions. Substitution of or failure to use specified materials may cause the connection to fail. Do not alter installation procedures from those set forth in this catalog. See Terms and Conditions of Sale.
- e. Do not add fastener holes or otherwise modify Simpson Strong-Tie Company Inc. products. The performance of modified products may be substantially weakened. Simpson Strong-Tie will not warrant or guarantee the performance of such modified products.
- f. The proper use of certain products requires that the product be bent. For those products, installers must not bend the product more than one time (one full cycle).
- g. Bolt holes shall be at least a minimum of 1/2" and no more than a maximum of 1/16" larger than the bolt diameter (per the [2015/2018 NDS](#), Section 12.1.3.2 and AISI S100, Table E3a if applicable).
- h. Install all specified fasteners before loading the connection.
- i. Some hardened fasteners may have premature failure if exposed to moisture. These fasteners are recommended to be used in dry interior applications.
- j. Use proper safety equipment.
- k. Welding galvanized steel may produce harmful fumes; follow proper welding procedures and safety precautions. Welding should be in accordance with A.W.S. (American Welding Society) standards. Unless otherwise noted Simpson Strong-Tie® connectors cannot be welded.
- l. Pneumatic or powder-actuated fasteners may deflect and injure the operator or others. Pneumatic nail tools may be used to install connectors, provided the correct quantity and type of nails (length and diameter) are properly installed in the nail holes. Connectors with tool embossments or tools with nail hole-locating mechanisms should be used. [CSHP coiled strap works with several manufacturers' pneumatic framing tools](#). Visit strongtie.com/cshp for additional information. Follow the manufacturer's instructions and use the appropriate safety equipment. Contact Simpson Strong-Tie. Powder-actuated fasteners should not be used to install connectors, unless noted otherwise. Reference pp. 161 and 163 for top-flange hanger installation with powder-actuated fasteners.
- m. Joist shall bear completely on the connector seat, and the gap between the joist end and the header shall not exceed 1/8" per ICC-ES [AC13](#), ASTM D1761 and ASTM D7147 test standards (unless specifically noted otherwise).
- n. Fasteners are permitted to be installed through metal truss plates when approved by the Truss Designer in accordance with ANSI/TPI 1-2014, Section 7.5.3.4 and 8.9.2. Installation of Simpson Strong-Tie® Strong-Drive® SDS Heavy-Duty Connector screws through metal connector plates requires the plates to be pre-drilled using a maximum of a 3/32" bit. Do not drive nails through the truss plate on the opposite side of single-ply trusses which could force the plate off the truss.
- o. Nuts shall be installed such that the end of the threaded rod or bolt is at least flush with the top of the nut.
- p. When installing hurricane ties on the inside of the wall special considerations must be taken to prevent condensation on the inside of the completed structure in cold climates.
- q. Unless otherwise noted, connectors shown in this catalog have been designed to be installed at the time the framing members are installed. Contact Simpson Strong-Tie for retrofit suitability of specific connectors including those manufactured in accordance with the hanger options section of this catalog.