

BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

A joint committee with members representing
AIBC, EGBC, BOABC

File No: 18-0070

INTERPRETATION

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Interpretation Date: September 15, 2020

Building Code Edition: BC Building Code 2018

Subject: Exemption of Braced Wall Panels at Porches

Keywords: Exemption, braces wall panel, porches

Building Code Reference(s): 9.23.13.5.(3)

Question:

1. Sentence 9.23.13.5.(3) waives the requirements for braced wall panels on porches provided they meet certain criteria. Does this waiver apply to all 3 exterior sides of the porch?
2. Subclause 9.23.13.5.(3)(c)(ii) requires the roof of such a porch to have roof framing not more than 400 mm oc and attached to the wall framing in accordance with Table 9.23.3.4. Does this mean that every roof joist must be attached to the side of every wall stud?

Interpretation:

1. Yes

Sentence 9.23.13.5.(3) waives the requirements for braced wall panels in all 3 of the exterior sides of a porch provided that the porch complies with all the conditions described in Sentence 9.23.13.5.(3).

Although the illustration on Page 20 of the BC Housing Illustrated Guide for Seismic Bracing (see illustration on Page 2) indicates the 2 end walls of the porch are solid walls, these end walls are permitted to be open per Sentence 9.23.13.5.(3).

2. No

There are a variety of ways that the roof joists can be attached to the wall framing. Two variations are illustrated in the Notes to Part 9 Figures 9.23.13.5.(3)-A & B (refer to illustrations on Pages 2 & 3). Figure A indicates roof joists perpendicular to the wall with a wood ledger fastened to each wall stud, each roof joist attached to the wood ledger and the roof joists at each end of the porch to be extended to be attached to the side of the wall studs. Figure B indicates roof joists running parallel to the wall with beams at each end that are attached to the sides of the wall studs

Note that the roof joists must be spaced at 400 mm oc.



Patrick Shek, P.Eng., CP, FEC, Committee Chair

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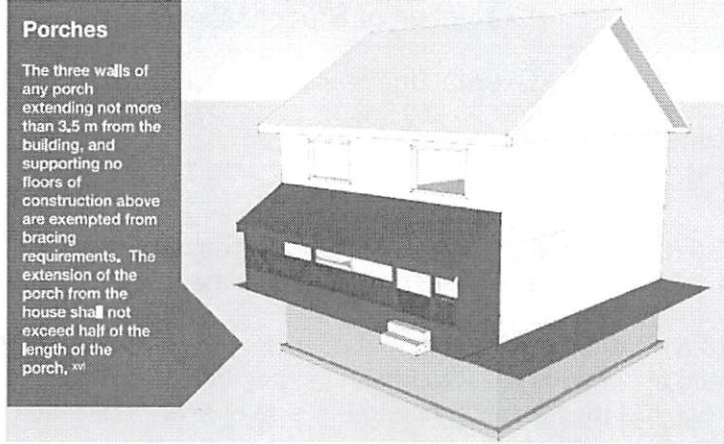
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Exceptions

There are some elements where the requirements for braced wall bands and braced wall panels are not required.

Porches

The three walls of any porch extending not more than 3.5 m from the building, and supporting no floors of construction above are exempted from bracing requirements. The extension of the porch from the house shall not exceed half the length of the porch.^{x1}



The roof of the porch must be integral with the roof of the house, or framed and fastened to the wall framing.

A-9.23.13.5.(3) Attachment of a Porch Roof to Exterior Wall Framing.

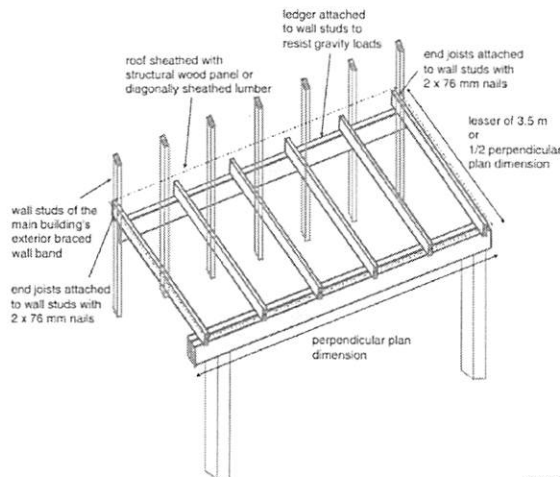


Figure A-9.23.13.5.(3)-A
Framing perpendicular to plane of wall (balloon construction)

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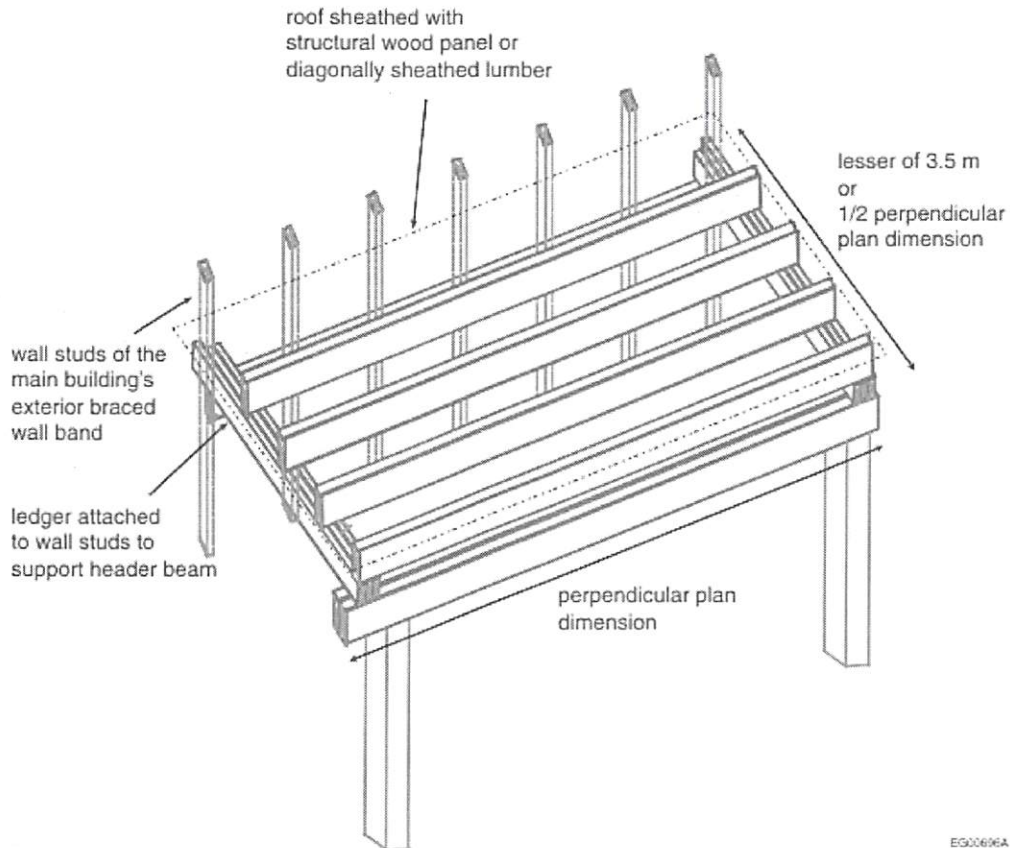


Figure A-9.23.13.5.(3)-B
Framing parallel to plane of wall

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