Covered Deck Framing Checklist

Ensure your outdoor addition is structurally sound and completely watertight.

Getting the hidden connection details right guarantees a flawless architectural transition. Verify your builder's plans with this structural guide.



Key Dimensions

4:12 or 6:12
typical roof pitch to match

12 or 16 in
overhang depth matching existing eaves

1 in
moisture gap at hidden post anchors

Against ledger wall
skylight placement for indoor sunlight

Measure Pitch Inside

Use a digital level inside your attic to find the true roof angle. This ensures new rafters integrate smoothly without awkward visual hinges where structures meet.

Securing the Ledger

1. **Expose the framing** Carefully remove exterior siding and house wrap to expose the wooden rim joist or wall studs.
2. **Drill and seal** Pre-drill pilot holes and apply exterior-grade silicone sealant into every hole to block moisture.
3. **Drive structural fasteners** Use structural lag bolts spaced to local codes, verifying full penetration from your basement or crawlspace.

Deck Styling Options

Find your row: **Desired Atmosphere**

Desired Atmosphere	Your pick	Why
Sophisticated warmth	White oak & crisp white	Reflects light perfectly
Intimate entertaining	Charcoal-stained black slats	Creates a modern, moody atmosphere
Authentic cabin character	Reclaimed beams & knotty pine	Brings rustic mountain charm
Cool and breezy	Haint blue painted pine	Visually expands the outdoor space

Framing & Flashing Checklist

- [ ] Z-flashing tucked behind house wrap and fully taped.
- [ ] Self-adhering butyl flashing tape applied over Z-flashing flange.
- [ ] Heavy-duty fan brace boxes secured directly to structural rafters.
- [ ] Concrete footings poured below local frost line with rebar.
- [ ] Raw wood post bases sealed with clear epoxy.
- [ ] T&G cedar ceiling blind-nailed with stainless steel brads.
- [ ] Cedar planks pre-sealed on back and edges before installation.

Verify Before You Build

- ○ Check local building codes for strict structural fastener spacing.
- ○ Have a licensed engineer verify timber dimensions for local loads.
- ○ Confirm skylight drywall shafts tilt slightly toward indoor living spaces.
- ○ Trace the continuous structural load path safely down to the ground.

Project Notes

Enjoy your beautiful, long-lasting outdoor living room all year round!