

GENERAL ORDERS ON SAFETY
IN CONSTRUCTION

IND 35.17 Carpenter's Bracket Scaffolds.

(1) All bracket scaffolds shall be constructed of triangular frame portable brackets, and platforms of planks. The brackets shall be spaced not more than 8 feet center to center, measured along the platform, and shall be secured to prevent turning, slipping and spreading. Nails shall not be used to secure a bracket to a building or structure except at the bottom to prevent turning or spreading.

(2) When constructed of wood, the brackets shall be of essentially clear, dressed material. Each member shall be of not less than nominal 2 inches by 3 inches, and mortised together and bolted. Each member of the bracket shall be set in a position to resist the greatest bending load. Cross grain in the bracket members shall not exceed a slope of one in 12.

(a) Wood brackets shall be anchored to the building structure by means of a bolt not less than 5/8-inch in diameter welded to a flat iron member, not less than 2 feet long, drilled, spiked and set in flush with the top surface of the horizontal member. The bolt shall be of sufficient length to extend well within the studs (when secured to a frame building) and provided with a washer and lever handle nut. A nominal 2x6-inch block shall be placed horizontally across the inside of two studs with the bolt passing through the block and the nut turned up tight.

(3) When constructed of steel, each member shall be of not less than 2 x 2 x 3/16-inch angles or their equivalent. Steel brackets shall be anchored to the framework of the building by means of a bolt not less than 5/8-inch in diameter, welded or riveted to the top horizontal member of the bracket or the equivalent. The bolt shall be of sufficient length to extend through the wall and shall be provided with a washer and lever handle nut anchored to the building framework as specified for wood brackets, except that steel brackets may be supported by the sheathing under the following conditions:

(a) A bracket hook of not less than 1-1/2 x 5/8-inch steel shall be designed to enter the sheathing at the lower edge of a board adjacent to a member of the framework

and shall distribute the pull and pressure due to the bracket load over the full width of that board, and shall apply the weight of the bracket load to the board below the hook entrance opening. (See illustration on page 31)

(b) The nails which fasten the upper sheathing board to the framework shall be plainly visible at all times while the scaffold is in use.

(c) No joint in the sheathing boards that support a bracket scaffold shall be less than 2 feet from the bracket hook opening.

(4) Where the building walls are constructed with composition sheathing, nominal 2 x 6-inch blocks shall be nailed horizontally across the outside of two studs at the top and bottom of the bracket, to prevent the bracket from breaking through the sheathing.