



**Town of Clover**  
Development Services  
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## CODE INTERPRETATION

### QUESTION

How do I repair a notched or drilled joist or beam?

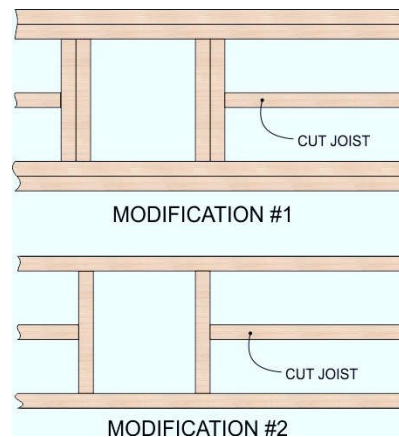
### CODE REFERENCE:

International Residential Code: R502.8 and Clover Policy

### ANSWER

Floor joists may be repaired as follows:

1. By substantial headers at the affected joist with the same size lumber to integrate it with the adjacent joists on each accessible side of the affected joist.



2. By sistering a board of the same dimensions so that a minimum of 1.5 feet of lumber extends on each side of the notch or hole. Note that if the joist is a double-joist, then a doubled-scab is required to compensate for the notch or hole.

Exceptions:

- When the affected area is in the center third of the span, the only acceptable repair is full replacement or site specific design by a licensed engineer.
- When the joist is an *engineered* floor joist, the only acceptable repair is full replacement or site specific design by a licensed engineer.

Beams or girders:

- If the affected area is directly over a pier and the beam could be visualized as being cut completely in two at the affected area and still having proper bearing (1.5" minimum on wood or metal and not less than 3" on masonry), then no further repair is necessary.
- If the affected area is not directly over a pier, a standard masonry pier with a proper footing may be built beneath it so that both sides of the affected area have proper bearing (1.5" minimum on wood or metal and not less than 3" on masonry).

- The only other acceptable repair is full replacement or site specific design by a licensed engineer.

Any work described above must be performed by a SC licensed general contractor or residential builder or under their direct supervision.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Hunter". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Building Official / Town of Clover

Date: February 1, 2011