

# Pergolas

---

**Reference:** 2024 International Residential Building Code  
City of Marion Code of Ordinances

## **Permit requirements:**

- A building permit is required for all pergolas, except for freestanding and under 200 sq. ft.
- All Pergolas are to be located per the zoning guidelines listed below.

**Zoning guidelines: Planning & Zoning Division** 319-743-6320 or [planning@cityofmarion.org](mailto:planning@cityofmarion.org)  
(Contact the above department with questions about setbacks and other zoning requirements.)

- Pergolas attached to the primary structure (home) cannot be constructed in the required front, side and rear yard setbacks.
- Pergolas that are detached and fully behind the primary structure (home), can be constructed no closer than 5 feet from a side or rear property line unless a utility or drainage easement exists. No part of the structure may extend into an easement.
- Should it be built beside the primary structure, the side yard setback must meet the requirements of the primary structure, which vary depending on zoning districts.
- A distance of 3 feet must be maintained between any portion (overhangs) of the detached structure and the primary structure.
- The area of the pergola should not cover more than 40% of the required rear yard.

**Applying for a permit:** (Submit digital copies of building plans for review and approval.)

- Complete the Application and a Site Plan showing all required information (see "Sample Site Plan")
- Fill out all the applicable information on the "Pergola Worksheet" at the end of this handout or submit detailed, scaled plans
- Email the application and all completed plans to [buildingpermits@cityofmarion.org](mailto:buildingpermits@cityofmarion.org) or go to the City of Marion website for information about applying through the Online Permit Service portal
- Upon completion of the review, you will be notified by phone or email to secure your permit

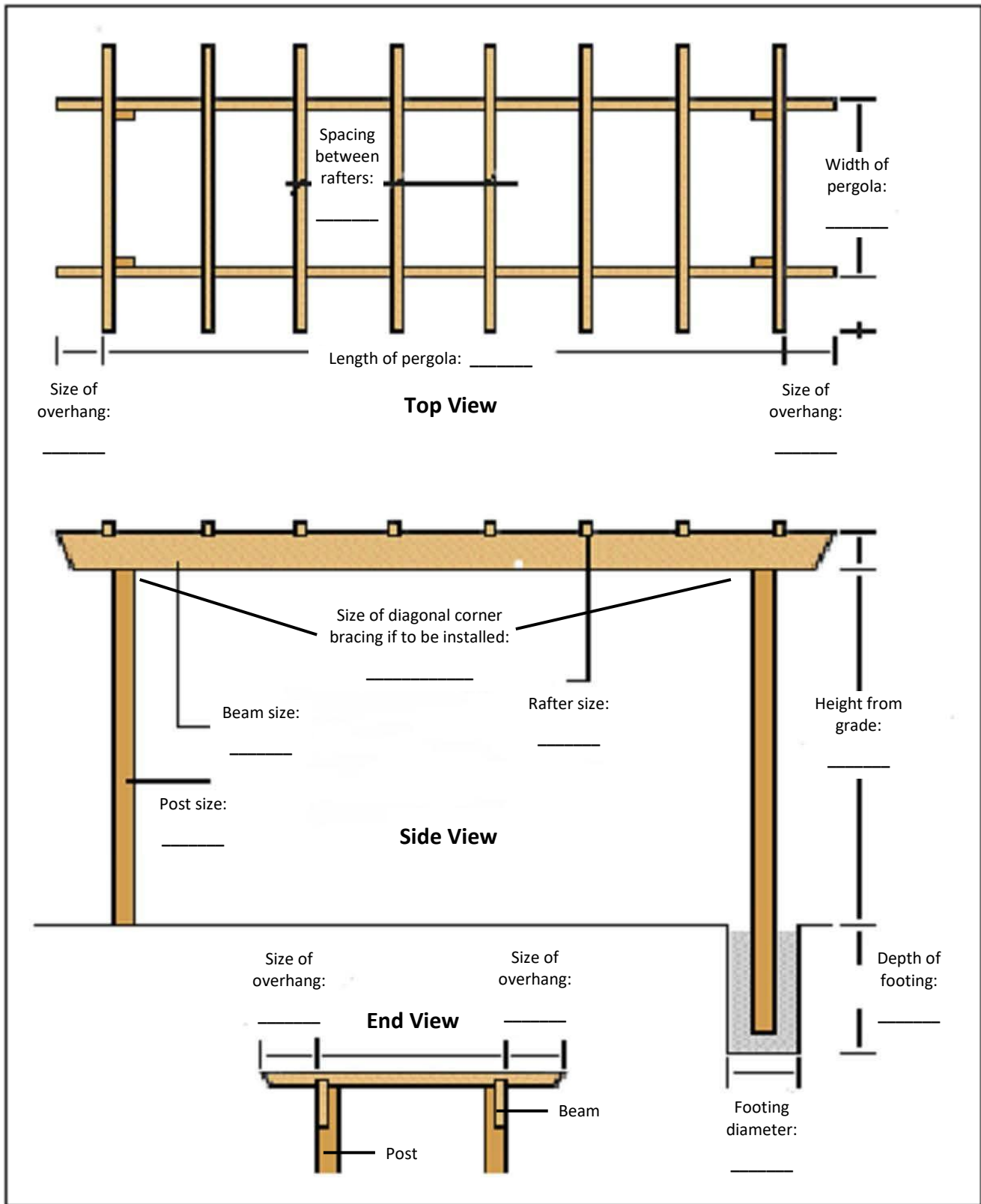
## **Design consideration:**

- All wooden members of Pergolas shall be pressure treated ACQ (approved pressure treated to .40 retention) or rot resistant wood (redwood or cedar).
- Pergolas shall be constructed to withstand wind loads as required by the City of Marion's Code of Ordinances.
- Footings are to be a minimum of 42" deep below grade. Footing diameters will vary with the size of the Pergola and number of posts.
- All nails, screws, or other fastening methods shall be compatible with the type of material being used. ACQ treated lumber requires double hot dipped fasteners or ACQ rated finish.

## **Inspections required:**

- Footing – call for a footing inspection after footing holes are dug and before pouring concrete. (Footing holes shall not contain loose soil and should be flared at the bottom of the holes.)
- Final inspection – after all work is completed and prior to use.

# Pergola Worksheet



The diagram consists of three views of a pergola structure: Top View, Side View, and End View. The Top View shows a grid of vertical posts and horizontal beams. The Side View shows the profile of the structure with posts and a beam. The End View shows the structure from the side, highlighting the beam and post. Various dimensions are labeled with lines pointing to the corresponding parts of the structure.

**Top View**

Spacing between rafters: \_\_\_\_\_

Width of pergola: \_\_\_\_\_

Length of pergola: \_\_\_\_\_

Size of overhang: \_\_\_\_\_

**Side View**

Size of diagonal corner bracing if to be installed: \_\_\_\_\_

Beam size: \_\_\_\_\_

Post size: \_\_\_\_\_

Rafter size: \_\_\_\_\_

Height from grade: \_\_\_\_\_

**End View**

Size of overhang: \_\_\_\_\_

Size of overhang: \_\_\_\_\_

Beam

Post

Depth of footing: \_\_\_\_\_

Footing diameter: \_\_\_\_\_