

# Design Load Guidelines

Please note that the official site for the report and map is:

<http://www.lib.uidaho.edu/digital/idahosnow/>

## Counties

### Ada

Seismic Design Category C  
Ground Snow Load 20 psf  
Wind Load 90 mph  
Live Load 25 psf  
Frost Depth 24"  
Elevation Varies.  
Exposure

### Blaine

[blainecounty.org](http://blainecounty.org)

Seismic Design Category Varies.  
Ground Snow Load Varies.  
Wind Load Varies.  
Live Load Varies.  
Frost Depth Varies.  
Elevation Varies.  
Exposure

### Bear Lake

[www.bearlakecounty.info](http://www.bearlakecounty.info)

Seismic Design Category D1

## Cities

### Acequia

Seismic Design Category C  
Ground Snow Load 25 psf  
Wind Load 90 mph  
Live Load 30 psf  
Frost Depth 24 in  
Elevation  
Exposure

### Ammon

Seismic Design Category D1  
Ground Snow Load 50 psf  
Wind Load 90 mph, 3 sec gust  
Live Load Per building code  
Frost Depth 30 in  
Elevation  
Exposure

### Blackfoot

Seismic Design Category Category C; Site Class  
Ground Snow Load 30 psf  
Wind Load Exposure C  
90mph/105, 3 sec gust

See

Design Category  
Ground Snow Load 45 lbs  
Live Load 15 lbs  
Frost Depth 32 in  
Elevation 5964 ft  
Exposure C

## Butte

Seismic Design Category D1  
Ground Snow Load 50 lb  
Live Load 35 lb  
Frost Depth 30"  
Elevation 5350

## Camas

Seismic Design Category C & Do  
Ground Snow Load 90, 100, 125 psf  
Wind Load 90 mph  
Live Load 40 psf  
Frost Depth 30 in  
Elevation 5052  
Exposure Severe

## Canyon

Seismic Design Category B  
Ground Snow Load 25 psf

Live Load 30 psf  
Frost Depth 30 in  
Elevation 4488 ft  
Exposure

## Boise

Seismic Design Category 2003 IRC is Design Category C. 2003 IBC is based on Section 1614  
Ground Snow Load Per local ordinance it is 20 psf with further statement that snow loads shall be determined per Section 7 of ASCE 7, but the design roof load shall not be less than a uniform snow load of 25 psf  
Wind Load 90 mph for both 2003 IRC and 2003 IBC  
Live Load per 2003 IRC and 2003 IBC  
Frost Depth 24 in  
Elevation 2842 ft  
Exposure

## Caldwell

Seismic Design Category B  
Ground Snow Load 20 psf  
Wind Load 90 mph  
Live Load 25 psf  
Frost Depth 24 in  
Elevation  
Exposure

Wind Load 90 mph  
Live Load  
Frost 24 in  
Depth  
Elevation  
Exposure C

## Clearwater

[www.clearwatercounty.org](http://www.clearwatercounty.org)

Seismic Design Category B  
Ground Snow Load  
Wind Load 90 mph  
Live Load Minimums per code  
Frost Depth 32"  
Elevation varies from 1000 ft to over 3000 ft; approximate elevations for the city limits of: Orofino 1027; Elk River 2918; Pierce 3087; Weippe 3029

Exposure

## Elmore

Seismic Design Category C  
Ground Snow Load 120 psf above Tollgate, 30 psi below  
Wind Load 90 mph  
Live Load 30 psf  
Frost Depth 36" above Featherville, 30" above Tollgate to Featherville, 24" below  
Elevation 3000 to 7000  
Exposure B and C

## Chubbuck

Seismic Design Category D1  
Ground Snow Load 45 psf  
Wind Load 70 mph and 90 mph, 3 sec gust  
Live Load 36 psf  
Frost Depth 36 in  
Elevation 4470 ft  
Exposure

## Coeur d'Alene

Seismic Design Category C  
Ground Snow Load 60 psf  
Wind Load 90 mph, 3 sec gusts  
Live Load 40 psf  
Frost Depth 24 in  
Elevation 2128-2860 ft  
Exposure

## Fruitland

Seismic Design Category C  
Ground Snow Load 25  
Live Load 20  
Frost Depth 24 in  
Exposure C

## Gooding

Seismic Design Category C  
Ground Snow Load 30 psf  
Wind Load 90 mph

## Custer

Wind Load 115 mph 3 sec gust

## Gooding

Seismic Design Category C  
Ground Snow Load 30 psf  
Wind Load 90 mph  
Live Load 30 psf  
Frost Depth 24 in  
Elevation 3500 ft  
Exposure C

## Fremont

Seismic Design Category D1  
Ground Snow Load 50/90/170 psf  
Wind Load 90 mph, 3 sec gusts  
Live Load Snow 35psf/70psf/90psf/128psf over load as per IBC/IRC  
Frost Depth 32 in  
Elevation 5000-7000 ft  
Exposure

## Jerome

[www.jeromecountyid.us](http://www.jeromecountyid.us)

Seismic Design Category C  
Ground Snow Load 20 psf

Live Load 30 psf  
Frost Depth 24 in  
Elevation 3500 ft  
Exposure C

## Hailey

Seismic Design Category D1  
Ground Snow Load 143 psf  
Wind Load 90 mph  
Live Load 100 psf  
Frost Depth 24 in  
Elevation Approx. 5600 ft  
Exposure

## Hayden

[www.cityofhaydenid.us](http://www.cityofhaydenid.us)

Seismic Design Category C  
Ground Snow Load 60 psf  
Wind Load 90 mph, 3 second gusts  
Live Load 40 psf  
Frost Depth 24 in  
Elevation 2287 ft  
Exposure Site specific exposure

## Heyburn

Seismic Design Category C  
Ground Snow Load 25 psf  
Wind Load 90 mph  
Live Load 30 psf  
Frost Depth 24 in  
Elevation  
Exposure

Wind Load 115 mph 3 sec gust  
velocity  
Wind C  
Exposure  
Roof Snow 30 psf  
Load  
Live Load 30 psf  
Presumed 1500 psf without soils  
Soil investigation  
Bearing  
Pressure  
Frost 24 in  
Depth  
Elevation 4048 ft  
Climate 5B  
Zone

## Ketchum

Seismic Design D with 35% snow load at  
Category 73%, S<sub>1</sub> = 20.5% or use  
site specific criteria  
Ground 120 psf  
Snow Load  
Wind Load 90 mph  
Live Load 100-psf with 100-plf line  
load @ eaves and  
unbalanced loading per  
ASCE7  
Frost 24 in  
Depth  
Elevation  
Exposure

## Kootenai

Seismic Design Category C  
Ground Snow Load Site specific per U of I  
publication "Ground  
and Roof Snow for

## Idaho Falls

Seismic Design Category D  
Ground Snow Load 47 psf  
Wind Load 90 mph  
Live Load  
Frost Depth 30 in  
Elevation 4710 ft  
Exposure C

## Lewiston

Seismic Design Category B  
Ground Snow Load 30 psf  
Wind Load 90 mph, 3 sec gust  
Frost Depth 24 in  
Elevation Lowest 739 ft,  
Highest 1550 ft

## McCall

Seismic Design Category D  
Ground Snow Load 150 psf, but the  
engineered design roof  
load shall not be less  
than a uniform snow  
load of 120 psf  
Wind Load 90 mph  
Live Load Varies  
Frost Depth 24 in  
Elevation 5200 to 5300 ft  
Exposure Varies

Idaho"  
Wind Load 90 mph 3 second gust  
Frost Depth 24 in  
Elevation Site specific; 2128+  
Exposure site specific exposure.

## Latah

Seismic Design Category B  
Roof Snow Load Zones of 30#, 40#, 60#, 80# 100# depending on locations (see County snow load map)  
Wind Load 90 mph/3 sec. gusts  
Live Load Soil bearing value 1500 psf  
Frost Depth 30 in  
Elevation Range approx. 1400-5000 ft  
Soils U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Soil Survey of Latah County Area, Idaho, April 1981

## Lemhi

Seismic Design Category B, C, D & D0  
Ground Snow Load Please contact the local building department for confirmation.  
Wind Load 90 mph, 3 sec gust  
Live Load  
Frost Depth 36" below finished grade  
Elevation 2500-9000 ft  
Exposure

## Moscow

Seismic Design Category B  
Ground Snow Load 64 psf  
Wind Load 90 mph, 3 sec gust  
Live Load Snow 40 psf, minimums per code  
Frost Depth 30 in  
Elevation 2500 to 2800 ft  
Exposure C

## Nampa

Seismic Design Category 2009 IRC  
Ground Snow Load 25 psf, collateral load of 5 psf  
Roof Snow Load 20 psf, collateral load of 5 psf  
Wind Load 90 mph for both 2003 IRC and 2003 IBC  
Live Load per 2003 IRC and 2003 IBC  
Frost Depth 24 inches  
Elevation 2600 ft.  
Exposure B or C

## Orofino

Seismic Design Category B  
Ground Snow Load 30 psf  
Wind Load 90 mph with 3 sec gust  
Live Load 25 psf  
Frost Depth 24 in  
Elevation 1000 ft  
Exposure

## Lincoln

Seismic Design Category D  
Ground Snow Load 30#  
Wind Load 90 mph, 3 sec gust  
Live Load 30#  
Frost Depth 24" below finished grade  
Elevation 4000 ft +/-

## Minidoka

Seismic Design Category C  
Ground Snow Load 25 psf  
Wind Load 90 mph  
Live Load 30 psf  
Frost Depth 24 in  
Elevation  
Exposure

## Nez Perce

[www.co.nezperce.id.us](http://www.co.nezperce.id.us)

Seismic Design Category B  
Ground Snow Load 25 - 70 psf  
Wind Load 115 mph  
Live Load 30 psf  
Weathering Severe  
Frost Depth 24-48 in  
Termite Slight to Moderate  
Decay None to Slight

## Paul

Seismic Design Category C  
Ground Snow Load 25 psf  
Wind Load 90 mph  
Live Load 30 psf  
Frost Depth 24 in  
Elevation  
Exposure

## Pocatello

[www.pocatello.us](http://www.pocatello.us)

Seismic Design Category C or D depending on the building classification and engineers calculation Default "D"  
Ground Snow Load 45 psf  
Wind Load Per IBC maps 90 mph 3 second gust  
Live Load 31.5 lbs with calculations or default 35 lbs  
Frost Depth 36 in  
Elevation 4250 ft  
Exposure Default C

## Priest River

[www.priestriver-id.gov](http://www.priestriver-id.gov)

Seismic Design Category C  
Ground Snow Load 73  
Live Load 50 Residential 60 Commercial  
Frost Depth 24"

Winter Design Temp	10 degrees F
Flood Hazards	FIRM maps as currently adopted
Mean annual temp	51 degrees F
Climate zone	5 and Marine 4
Elevation	745 - 4800
Exposure	

## Owyhee

Seismic Design Category	B
Ground Snow Load	20 psf
Wind Load	90 mph
Live Load	Roof snow load below 6000 ft. 25 psf. Above 6000 ft. 35 psf
Weathering	Severe
Frost Depth	24 in
Termite Decay	Slight to Moderate
Winter Design Temp	10 Degree F
Ice shield Under-layment	Not required
Flood Hazards	FIRM maps as currently adopted
Air Freezing Index	980
Mean Annual Temp	51 Degrees F
Elevation	
Exposure	

Elevation	2100
Weathering	Severe
Termite Decay	None to slight
Winter Design Temp	10 Degrees

## Rathdrum

Seismic Design Category	C
Ground Snow Load	56 psf
Wind Load	90 mph
Live Load	40 psf
Frost Depth	24 in
Elevation	
Exposure	

## Rexburg

Seismic Design Category	Depends upon rock profile. Usually D but can be C
Ground Snow Load	50 psf
Wind Load	90 mph
Live Load	Same as IBC – IRC
Frost Depth	36 in
Elevation	4865-5080 ft
Exposure	

## Rupert

Seismic Design Category	C
Ground Snow Load	25 psf
Wind Load	90 mph
Live Load	30 psf
Frost Depth	24 in
Elevation	
Exposure	



## Power

Seismic Design Category Group I, Site Class D, Design Category D  
Ground Snow Load 45 psf  
Wind Load 90 mph  
Live Load 30psf  
Frost Depth 30 in  
Elevation 4600-5200 ft  
Exposure

## Teton

Seismic Design Category D1  
Ground Snow Load 60 -130 psf  
Live Load 85 lbs per square ft + dead load + drift  
Wind Load 90 mph  
Frost Depth 32 in  
Elevation 6000 ft  
Exposure

## Twin Falls

[www.twinfallscounty.org](http://www.twinfallscounty.org)

Seismic Design Category C  
Ground Snow Load 30 psf  
Wind Load 90 mph with 3 second gust  
Soil bearing pressure 1500#

## Sandpoint

[www.cityofsandpoint.com](http://www.cityofsandpoint.com)

Seismic Design Category C  
Ground Snow Load 104 psf  
Wind Load 90 mph  
Live Load 55 psf  
Frost Depth 24 in  
Elevation 2075 ft  
Exposure B or C

## Soda Springs

Seismic Design Category D  
Ground Snow Load 60 psf  
Wind Load 90 mph  
Live Load  
Frost Depth 36 in  
Elevation 5800-6000 ft  
Exposure

## Spirit Lake

Seismic Design Category C  
Ground Snow Load 56 psf  
Wind Load 90 mph  
Live Load 40 psf  
Frost Depth 24in  
Elevation  
Exposure

Flood zone site specific

Termite Slight  
Frost 24 in min

Depth

Elevation 2900-4900 ft

Weathering Severe

Unless determined differently based on the site evaluation by a qualified design professional. (Ord. 217, 12-16-2010)

## Sun Valley

Seismic Design D1 or per IBC  
Category Chapter 16  
Ground Snow Load 120 psf  
Wind Load 90 mph  
Live Load  
Frost Depth 24 in  
Elevation 5920 +/-  
Exposure B

## Twin Falls

[www.tfid.org](http://www.tfid.org)

Seismic Design Site class C  
Category  
Roof Snow Load 25 psf  
Ground Snow Load 15 psf.  
Wind Load 90 mph, 3 sec gust velocity  
Wind exposure B (C in some areas)  
Live Load Per IBC, but Section 1608 is amended to include that the minimum uniformly distributed design load shall be 25 psf  
Presumed soil bearing pressure 1500psf without soils investigation  
Frost Depth 24 in  
Climate Zone 5B  
Water heating design temp 2 degrees (99% dry bulb)  
Elevation 3700  
Exposure Fastest mile/3 second gust 75mph/90mph exposure C.

Table R301.5 is amended to require a minimum uniform live load of 40 psf in habitable attics and sleeping rooms.

Foundations with stem walls shall be provided with a minimum of one # 4 bar at the top of the wall and one #4 bar at the bottom of the footing. #4 vertical bars are required at 6 feet on center.

*Basement walls* to have one #4 horizontal bar at 4 feet on center. One #4 bar is also required horizontally and vertically around openings, extending 2 feet beyond the opening. One #4 bar to be placed diagonally at corners of openings subject to cracking. Vertical bars installed per IRC.

Unvented fuel-burning appliances are not allowed.

30" minimum crawl space depth measured from bottom of floor joist (per local resolution)

## **Weiser**

Seismic Design Category	C
Ground Snow Load	30 psf
Wind Load	90 mph
Live Load	Per 2009 IRC and 2009 IBC
Weathering	Severe
Frost Depth	24 in
Termite	
Decay	
Winter Design	
Temp	
Ice shield	
Under- layment	
Flood Hazards	FIRM Maps Effective date June 16, 2009
Air Freezing Index	980
Mean Annual Temp	50 Degrees F
Elevation	2129
Exposure	

\* These charts and numbers are based off the 2015 guidelines

## How to calculate your roof snow load

Consult your local permit issuing authority to find the recorded snow load (the maximum snow expected to fall) in your region. • Calculate your roof pitch: Divide the "rise" (vertical distance between the peak of the roof and the edge) by the "run" (distance from the peak of your roof to the edge) and convert the fraction to a ratio of 12. (For example, if the rise of your roof is 15 feet, the run is 36 feet, then the pitch = 15 feet / 36 feet = 5:12) • Use a calculator like this one. Enter values of your roof and follow the instructions to get your roof snow load

A cubic foot of dry snow weighs about 6 to 8 pounds, while one cubic foot of packed snow could weigh up to 20 pounds. The same volume of ice can weigh three times this amount.

Examples: 24" = 17lbs. per square foot  
48" = 33lbs. per square foot  
72" = 50lbs. per square foot

For more information please visit the following links

[www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)

<http://www.lib.uidaho.edu/digital/idahosnow/GroundSnowLoadsforIdaho2015.pdf>

<http://www.lib.uidaho.edu/digital/idahosnow/map2015.html>