Canadian & American Geometric Roof Framing Development using a steel framing square.

Developed by Sim "Butch" Ayers
Inspired By
Joe Bartok & Billy Dillon
www.sbebuilders.com
The Canadian & American Geometric Roof Framing Development is a simple 10 step process of drawing 10 triangles with a steel framing square. No math skills are required, just a framing square. You only need to know the pitch of the roof.

The 10 triangles will produce:

1: Common Rafter Length for 12" of run
2: Hip Rafter Length for 12" of run
3: Common Rafter Pitch Angle
4: Hip Rafter Pitch Angle
5: Hip Rafter Side Cut Angle
6: Hip Rafter Backing Angle
7: Roof Sheathing Angle
8: Jack Rafter Side Cut Angle
9: Frieze Block Miter Angle
10: Frieze Block Saw Bevel Angle
11: Jack Rafter Length Difference
12: First Jack Rafter length for 2x, 4x or 6x hip rafters.

Draw the triangles out on a sheet of plywood. After you have drawn the 10 triangles you can cut out the triangles and use them for templates to cut your rafters. Or use a bevel square to transfer the angles to the material your using for your rafters.

To check any of the angles using a Construction Master Calculator simply enter the two legs of any of the triangles to find the angle in degrees.

Example:

\[ \text{[On/C][On/C]} \]
\[ 10'' \div 12'' = 0.833333 \]
\[ \text{[Conv][Tan]} \text{ DEG 39.80557°} \]

\[ \text{[On/C][On/C]} \]
\[ 10'' \div 16.97'' = 0.589275 \]
\[ \text{[Conv][Tan]} \text{ DEG 30.50979°} \]

\[ \text{[On/C][On/C]} \]
\[ 12'' \div 15 5/8'' = 0.768 \]
\[ \text{[Conv][Tan]} \text{ DEG 37.52426°} \]

\[ \text{[On/C][On/C]} \]
\[ 8 5/8'' \div 16.97'' = 0.50825 \]
\[ \text{[Conv][Tan]} \text{ DEG 26.94195°} \]

Developed by Sim "Butch" Ayers
Inspired By
Joe Bartok & Billy Dillon
www.sbebuilders.com
Roof Framing Angles

- Hip Rafter Side Cut Angle
- Hip Rafter Angle
- Plan Angle
- Roof Sheathing Angle
- Frieze Block Saw Bevel Angle
- Jack Rafter Side Cut Angle
- Frieze Block Miter Angle
- Rafter Angle
- Hip Rafter Backing Angle

Developed by Sim "Butch" Ayers
Inspired By
Joe Bartok & Billy Dillon
www.sbebuilders.com

3
Roof Framing Angles
10:12 Pitch Example

- Hip Rafter Side Cut Angle: 40.75°
- Hip Rafter Angle: 30.51°
- Plan Angle: 45°
- Roof Sheathing Angle: 52.47°
- Rafter Angle: 39.81°
- Frieze Block Saw Bevel Angle: 32.90°
- Frieze Block Miter Angle: 32.63°
- Jack Rafter Side Cut Angle: 37.53°
- Hip Rafter Backing Angle: 26.92°

Developed by Sim "Butch" Ayers
Inspired By
Joe Bartok & Billy Dillon

www.sbebuilders.com
Roof Framing Dimensions
for 12" Run

Developed by Sim "Butch" Ayers
Inspired By
Joe Bartok & Billy Dillon
www.sbebuilders.com
Roof Framing Triangles

Hip Rafter Side Cut Triangle
Common Rafter Length Triangle
Hip Rafter Backing Angle Triangle
Hip Rafter Length Triangle
Plan Angle Triangle
Roof Surface Triangle
Frieze Block Saw Bevel Angle Triangle
Hip Rafter Backing Angle Triangle
Frieze Block Miter Angle Triangle

Developed by Sim "Butch" Ayers
Inspired By
Joe Bartok & Billy Dillon
www.sbebuilders.com
Step 1 **Plan Angle Triangle**

Draw the **plan angle triangle** right triangle with two legs of the triangle equal to 12". The third leg of the triangle will be 16.97" in length.

![Plan Angle Triangle Diagram]

**Hip Rafter Run For 12" Of Rise.**

**Common Rafter Run For 12" Of Rise.**

Step 2 **Common Rafter Length Triangle & Hip Rafter Length Triangle**

Draw a right triangle with the pitch of the roof as the leg of the triangle. In this example it's 10". It will perpendicular to the common rafter run leg of the plan angle triangle. Then draw the leg of the triangle from the pitch of the roof leg to the base of the first triangle. In this example the third leg of the triangle will be 15 5/8" in length, which represents the length of the common rafter for 12" of run.

Next draw another right triangle with the pitch of the roof as the length of leg of the triangle. This leg of the right triangle will be perpendicular to the hip rafter run leg of the plan angle triangle. Then draw another leg of the triangle that connects with the first triangle. In this example it's 19 11/16" in length, which represents the length of the hip rafter for 12" of run of the common rafter.

![Common Rafter Length Triangle & Hip Rafter Length Triangle Diagram]
**Roof Surface Triangle**

Draw the **roof surface triangle** right triangle with length of the common rafter as the leg of the triangle. In this example it's 15 5/8". This leg is perpendicular to the common rafter run leg of the plan angle triangle. Then draw the leg of the triangle from the base of the first triangle. In this example the third leg of the triangle will be 19 11/16" in length, which represents the length of the hip rafter for 12" of run.
**Hip Rafter Side Cut Angle Triangle**

Draw the **hip rafter side cut triangle** right triangle. Start with line \( \text{B-C} \) that is perpendicular to line \( \text{B-E} \). In this example it's 16.97". Then draw the line \( \text{A-B} \) of the triangle that is perpendicular to \( \text{B-D} \) and the same length as \( \text{B-C} \). Next draw line \( \text{A-D} \) to complete the **Hip Rafter Side Cut Angle Triangle**.

---

**Triangle Dimensions**

- \( \text{B-C} = 16.97" \)
- \( \text{A-B} = 16.97" \)
- \( \text{A-D} = 10" \)
- \( \text{B-D} = 16.97" \)
- \( \text{B-E} = 12" \)
- \( \text{E-D} = 15.5/8" \)
- \( \text{B-C} = 16.97" \)
- \( \text{B-D} = 16.97" \)
- \( \text{B-E} = 12" \)
- \( \text{E-D} = 15.5/8" \)

---

**Developed by Sim "Butch" Ayers**

**Inspired By**

Joe Bartok & Billy Dillon

www.sbebuilders.com
Step 5: Hip Rafter Backing Angle Triangle

Draw line \( \text{A-B} \) (blue dashed line) perpendicular to the hip rafter length leg that bisects the hip rafter triangle 90° corner \( \text{B} \). This line is the altitude of the hip rafter triangle, it will be 8 5/8” in length. Then extend the hip rafter run triangle leg \( \text{R-B} \) (black line) the length of the altitude line \( \text{A-B} \), 8 5/8”. This will produce line \( \text{B-C} \).

Next, draw line \( \text{B-D} \) that extends the 10” leg of the hip rafter triangle. This line will extend to the base line \( \text{N-D} \) drawn perpendicular to the first triangle. The length of line \( \text{B-D} \) will be 16.97” and the line \( \text{C-D} \) will be 19” in length. This blue triangle gives us the Hip Rafter Backing Angle Triangle. The hip rafter backing angle in this example is 26.92°.
Step 6: **Hip Rafter Backing Angle Triangle - Transfered**

Transfer the blue *hip rafter backing angle triangle* to the bottom of the *Roof Surface Triangle*.

Developed by Sim "Butch" Ayers
Inspired By
Joe Bartok & Billy Dillon

www.sbebuilders.com
Step 7

Draw line $C-J$ (green line) perpendicular to the common rafter length leg $N-B$ (15 5/8"), at the top of the **Hip Rafter Backing Angle Triangle** that was transferred to the bottom of the **Roof Surface Triangle**. This line will intersect at the hip rafter length leg $R-B$ (19 11/16"). Then draw line $C-I$ the same length as $C-J$ and draw line $I-D$.

Next, draw line $B-K$ the same length as $J-B$, then draw line $K-D$. 

Developed by Sim "Butch" Ayers
Inspired By
Joe Bartok & Billy Dillon www.sbebuilders.com 12
Step: 8
Calculate-draw the Frieze Miter & Saw Bevel Angles

Draw line \(a-1\) (gray dashed line) perpendicular to the line \(I-D\). Then draw line \(a-2\) the same length as \(a-1\).

Next, draw line \(b-1\) and \(b-2\). These lines form the Frieze Block Saw Bevel Angle.
Step 9:
Calculate-draw the Jack rafter length difference.

Draw line **M-E**, so that line **R-M & M-E** are equal to the jack rafter spacing, 24" in this example. Then draw line **G-F** at the same angle as line **R-G**.

Next, draw line **E-F**. The length of line **E-F** is the jack rafter length difference, 31 1/4" in this example.
Step 10
Calculate and draw the length of the first jack rafter.

Draw line $\text{Rr-Ff}$ (black dashed line) parallel to line $\text{R-F}$, half the thickness of the hip rafter.

Next, draw lines $\text{a-1}$ and $\text{b-1}$ centered on line $\text{E-F}$. These lines represent half the thickness of the jack rafter. Line $\text{a-1}$ will be the length of the first jack rafter.
Crown molding with a spring angle of 38° has a compound miter saw angle of 31.62° and a compound saw bevel angle of 33.86°.

Developed by Sim "Butch" Ayers
Inspired By
Joe Bartok & Billy Dillon
www.sbebuilders.com