

# **Snow Loads by Elevation**

## **La Plata County 2015 Adopted Code**

R301.2.3. Snow loads. Section R301.2.3 of the 2015 International Residential Code is deleted and replaced with the following:

The design of roof systems and assemblies shall be designed using the snow load information contained in Table 301.2.3. The information represented in Table 301.2.3 provides pounds per square foot snow load for areas and elevations in La Plata County. This information can also be found by individual parcel of land on the La Plata County GIS maps. Properties having more than one snow load shall use the higher load in the structural calculations. Pursuant to section 18-35(107.2(9)), buildings in regions with live loads of 70 pounds per square foot or more shall, at the discretion of the building official be required to be designed by a design professional.

In the design of buildings and structures, consideration shall be given to the following:

- (1) Unbalanced loading of roofs.
- (2) Drifting due to adjacent obstructions.
- (3) Accumulations in valleys and adjacent to parapet walls and chimneys.
- (4) Ice loads on cornices of at least one and one half times the roof snow load.
- (5) Possible impact loadings from snow falling on structure from higher roofs.
- (6) Effect on structure from dynamic loading caused by snow sliding off roof.
- (7) Snow sliding off roof and dynamically loading sidewalls by being forced against same due to snow embankment adjacent to the structure.
- (8) Protection of entrances, exits and windows from the danger of falling icicles and snow sliding off pitched roofs.
- (9) Ice weight where it will refreeze on unheated overhangs after having melted and run off from portions of roofs with heat below same.
- (10) Projections through the roof, such as ventilation and plumbing vents, which may be torn off or damaged by sliding snow.
- (11) Gas meter sheds shall be designed to resist 1.4 times the snow load prescribed for its associated structure.
- (12) Decks located above the anticipated snow load shall be designed as flat roofs. The snow load for decks located below the anticipated snow level may be interpolated between the roof and ground snow load based on the appropriate height. Consider impact, uplift and drift as appropriate.

**Table R301.2.3**

<b>Elevation</b>	<b>Live Roof Snow Load (p.s.f.)</b>	<b>Ground Snow Load (p.s.f.)</b>	<b>Elevation</b>	<b>Live Roof Snow Load (p.s.f.)</b>	<b>Ground Snow Load (p.s.f.)</b>
<b>&lt; 6,500</b>	40	57	<b>8,250</b>	97	136
<b>6,750</b>	45	64	<b>8,500</b>	105	147
<b>7,000</b>	50	70	<b>8,750</b>	112	157
<b>7,250</b>	56	78	<b>9,000</b>	120	168
<b>7,500</b>	61	86	<b>9,500</b>	136	190
<b>7,750</b>	66	94	<b>10,000</b>	154	215
<b>8,000</b>	90	126	<b>10,500</b>	173	242