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Evaluating Wood Posts Supporting Roofs

[] There is no visible connection or the only connection is a toe nailed connection attaching the roof structure to the columns. (Discount the strength of this connection and plan to retrofit.)

[] There is no visible connection or the only connection is a toe nailed connection attaching the columns to the floor system or foundation. (Discount the strength of this connection and plan to retrofit.)

[] The bottom of the post is soft in areas within 2-inches of the fasteners connecting the column to the floor system or foundation. Test for softness with an ice pick, small sharp screw driver, or nail. (Discount the strength of this connection and plan to retrofit.)

[] Thin metal straps with 4 to 5 nails on each side are used to connect the roof structure to the column. (Estimate the strength of his connection at 400 pound per strap and compare with the required strength from the Column Uplift Checklist.)

[] Thin metal straps with 4 to 5 nails on each side are used to connect the column to the floor system or foundation. (Estimate the strength of his connection at 400 pound per strap and compare with the required strength from the Column Uplift Checklist.)

[] There is a heavy metal strap at least 1" wide and 1/8" thick connecting the column to the floor system or foundation. The strap is either embedded in the foundation or floor slab or connects to a wood floor system with at least 4 nails or screws. (Estimate the strength at between 800 to 900 pounds and compare with the required strength from the Column Uplift Checklist.)

[] There is a threaded rod going up through the column with a steel plate and large nut that is holding down the roof structure and the rod is anchored into the foundation or floor slab. (This is probably adequate unless you have a very large porch roof or carport with few posts or columns)

Is the column base connector at the foundation deteriorated or damaged? If so get it checked and replace if necessary.

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[Questions](#)