Introduction
Design Criteria for Development of the Span-Load Charts
Related Publications
Manufacturing Tolerances
8" Bare Hollow Core Span-Load Chart
8" Topped Hollow Core Span-Load Chart
12" Bare Hollow Core Span-Load Chart
12" Topped Hollow Core Span-Load Chart
12½" Bare Hollow Core Span-Load Chart
8" Hollow Core Residual Camber
12" Hollow Core Residual Camber
General Notes
Blockouts
Allowable Ripped Slab Widths
Dimensions for Detailing
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The Hollow Core slab is manufactured in a standard 4’ width and 8”, 12” and 12½” thicknesses using a continuous concrete extrusion process. Zero-slump, high-strength concrete with a 28-day strength in excess of 8,000 psi and ½” diameter, 270 ksi, low relaxation steel strands are used in the process. The strands are pretensioned and fully bonded to the concrete to support the slabs under design loads. When the concrete reaches sufficient strength to bond the strands, the slabs are cut from the extrusion to customer-specified lengths. Narrow-width slabs are available at additional cost by rip-cutting standard width slabs. Economical layout of the slabs utilizes as many of the standard 4’ wide units as possible with the remainder of the layout filled with non-standard width slabs or cast-in-place closure strips. Contact CTC’s Marketing Department for special considerations and limitations.

The Hollow Core slab has a variety of uses, including floors and roofs for buildings and parking garages, decks for piers and short-span bridges, lids for storm water detention vaults, and lagging for retaining walls. Cast-in-place, composite concrete topping may be added to provide a smooth, level floor surface that serves as a horizontal diaphragm when properly reinforced. For untopped and non-composite topping applications, the horizontal diaphragm is provided by shear friction reinforcement in the grouted shear keys and in the end closure pours.

The following Span-Load Charts show the 8” and 12” sizes with and without a minimum 2½” thick composite topping. The 12½” size with topping is not shown as it is usually used in untopped applications. It is designed with a thicker top flange to provide the greater durability and increased “punch-through” capacity normally supplied by the topping.
COMPOSITE CAST-IN-PLACE TOPPING – Full-scale load tests performed at Concrete Technology Corporation have verified that, for composite Hollow Core systems with factored horizontal shear stresses between the topping and slab of 90 psi or less, full composite action is achieved without intentionally roughening the top surface or providing mechanical ties. This is discussed in CTA Technical Bulletins 74B6 and 76B4. The composite Span-Load Charts are capped with a bold contour where horizontal shear would otherwise govern. Contact CTC’s Marketing Department for further information concerning test results or special design conditions.

The weight of the cast-in-place topping has already been included in determining the allowable superimposed load on composite slabs. Do not deduct the weight of the topping from the values derived from the Span-Load Charts.

The natural camber of the Hollow Core slabs, combined with the wet weight of the cast-in-place topping, will normally require a variable thickness of topping to provide a flat finished floor. Residual Camber Contour charts are provided to estimate the amount of residual camber or sag after placement of the topping. The weight of the variable thickness in addition to the 2½” minimum has been considered in the development of the Span-Load Charts.


DEFLECTIONS – Total deflection is defined as the upward camber of the slab due to the eccentricity of the pretensioning less the downward deflection due to applied loads, including the long-term effects of prestress loss, creep and shrinkage. Allowable loads from the Span-Load Charts limit the theoretical total deflection to $l/180$. In addition, the deflection due to prestress and dead load, including long-term effects, is limited to $l/240$. Instantaneous deflections due to live loads are limited to $l/360$. The load combinations considered in the deflection analysis are 50% dead and live load, or 100% live load.

Associated building elements that may be affected by deflections should be placed with adequate tolerances. It is not practical to deflect the formwork to produce desired cambers. Suggested methods for calculating cambers and deflections are described in the 7th Edition of the PCI Design Handbook, Section 5.8. Contact CTC’s Marketing Department with any questions about deflections.

ROUGH OPENINGS – The values in the Span-Load Charts apply to Hollow Core slabs without openings. Rough openings through the voided area of a Hollow Core slab normally have little effect on its load-carrying capacity. However, large openings that cut webs and strands can have a significant impact on the load-carrying capacity of the slab. Contact CTC’s Marketing Department with questions on the capacity of slabs with openings.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE FROM CTC

• Guide Specifications for Precast, Prestressed Hollow Core Slabs
• Hollow Core Slab Connection Details
• Field Handling and Erection of Hollow Core Slabs
• Concrete Technology Corporation Research Reports:

CTA Technical Bulletin 73B6, “Shear Diaphragm Capacity of Precast Floor Systems”
CTA Technical Bulletin 75B10/11, “Flexural Bond Performance”
CTA Technical Bulletin 76B3, “Non-Destructive Testing of Concrete”
CTA Technical Bulletin 78B1, “Shear Strength of Hollow Core Members”
CTA Technical Bulletin 79B4, “Shear Strength of Continuous Hollow Core Systems”
CTA Technical Bulletin 80B3, “Shear Diaphragm Capacity of Untopped Hollow Core Floor Systems”
CTA Technical Bulletin 85B1, “Web Shear Strength of Prestressed Concrete Members”
a = Length ......................................... ± 1 in.
b = Width ........................................... ± 1/4 in.
c = Depth ........................................... ± 1/4 in.
d_l = Top of flange thickness
    Top flange area defined by the actual measured
    values of average d_l x b shall not be less than
    85% of the nominal area calculated by d_l nomi-
    nal x b nominal.
d_b = Bottom flange thickness
    Bottom flange area defined by the actual mea-
    sured values of average d_b x b shall not be less
    than 85% of the nominal area calculated by
    d_b nominal x b nominal.

c = Web thickness
    The total cumulative web thickness defined by
    the actual measured value Σe shall not be less
    than 85% of the nominal cumulative width calcu-
    lated by Σe nominal.
f = Rough Opening ............................... ± 2 in.
g = Flange angle ..... 1/8 in. per 12 in., 1/2 in. max.
h = Variation from specified end
    squareness or skew ............................ ± 1/2 in.
i = Sweep (variation from straight line
    parallel to centerline of member) ..... ± 3/8 in.
j = Center of gravity of strand group
    The CG of the strand group relative to the top
    of the slab shall be within ± 1/4 in. of the nominal
    strand group CG.

    The position of any individual strand shall be
    within ± 1/2 in. of nominal vertical position and
    ± 3/4 in. of nominal horizontal position and shall
    have a minimum cover of 3/4 in.

k = Local smoothness ...................... ± 1/4 in. in 10 ft.
l = Applications requiring close control of differential camber between adjacent members of the same design should be discussed in detail with the producer to determine applicable tolerances.

Slab Weight

Excess concrete material in the slab internal features is within tolerance as long as the measured weight of the individual slab does not exceed 110% of the nominal published unit weight used in the load capacity calculation.
SECTION PROPERTIES (with shear key grouted)

\[ I = 1666 \text{ in}^4 \]
\[ S_t = 417 \text{ in}^3 \]
\[ S_b = 417 \text{ in}^3 \]
\[ A = 214 \text{ in}^2 \]
\[ w = 57 \text{ psf} \]
\[ y_t = 4.00 \text{ in} \]
\[ y_b = 4.00 \text{ in} \]
\[ e = 2.25 \text{ in} \]

NOTES:

1. The values given in this chart are in compliance with ACI 318-14.
2. The values given in this chart are based on hollow core slabs without shear reinforcement. See SHEAR for discussion.
3. Refer to DEFLECTIONS for discussion of deflection criteria.
4. This Span-Load Chart is intended as an aid to preliminary sizing only, and must be interpreted using sound engineering judgment.
8" HOLLOW CORE SLAB
COMPOSITE WITH 2½" CONCRETE TOPPING

\( f'_{c \text{ topping}} = 4,000 \text{ psi} \)

COMPOSITE SECTION PROPERTIES (with shear key grouted)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>( I_c )</td>
<td>3,336 in(^4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( S_{lc} )</td>
<td>972 in(^3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( S_{bc} )</td>
<td>612 in(^3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( S_f )</td>
<td>1,308 in(^3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( w )</td>
<td>90 psf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( y_{lc} )</td>
<td>5.05 in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( y_{bc} )</td>
<td>5.45 in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( y_f )</td>
<td>2.55 in</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTES:

1. The values given in this chart are in compliance with ACI 318-14.
2. The values given in this chart are based on hollow core slabs without shear reinforcement. See SHEAR for discussion.
3. Refer to DEFLECTIONS for discussion of deflection criteria.
4. This Span-Load Chart is intended as an aid to preliminary sizing only, and must be interpreted using sound engineering judgment.
5. Interface shear governs the design of composite topped hollow core slabs above this line.
SECTION PROPERTIES (with shear key grouted)

I = 5,270 in⁴  Sₐ = 878 in³  Sₐ = 878 in³  A = 289 in²
w = 77 psf  yₐ = 6.00 in  yₐ = 6.00 in

NOTES:

1. The values given in this chart are in compliance with ACI 318-14.
2. The values given in this chart are based on hollow core slabs without shear reinforcement. See SHEAR for discussion.
3. Refer to DEFLECTIONS for discussion of deflection criteria.
4. This Span-Load Chart is intended as an aid to preliminary sizing only, and must be interpreted using sound engineering judgment.
12" HOLLOW CORE SLAB
COMPOSITE WITH 2½" CONCRETE TOPPING

\( f'_c \text{ topping} = 4,000 \text{ psi} \)

**COMPOSITE SECTION PROPERTIES (with shear key grouted)**

\[
\begin{align*}
I_c &= 8,656 \text{ in}^4 \\
w &= 111 \text{ psf} \\
y_c &= 6.90 \text{ in} \\
y_{bc} &= 7.60 \text{ in} \\
x &= 1,140 \text{ in}^3 \\
y &= 1,965 \text{ in}^3 \\
\end{align*}
\]

**NOTES:**

1. The values given in this chart are in compliance with ACI 318-14.
2. The values given in this chart are based on hollow core slabs without shear reinforcement. See SHEAR for discussion.
3. Refer to DEFLECTIONS for discussion of deflection criteria.
4. This Span-Load Chart is intended as an aid to preliminary sizing only, and must be interpreted using sound engineering judgment.
5. Interface shear governs the design of composite topped hollow core slabs above this line.
SECTION PROPERTIES (with shear key grouted)

I = 6,136 in^4  S_t = 1,019 in^3  S_b = 947 in^3  A = 313 in^2

w = 84 psf  y_t = 6.02 in  y_b = 6.48 in

NOTES:

1. The values given in this chart are in compliance with ACI 318-14.
2. The values given in this chart are based on hollow core slabs without shear reinforcement. See SHEAR for discussion.
3. Refer to DEFLECTIONS for discussion of deflection criteria.
4. This Span-Load Chart is intended as an aid to preliminary sizing only, and must be interpreted using sound engineering judgment.

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12½" HOLLOW CORE SLAB
1. Residual Camber is defined as the camber remaining in the hollow core slabs just after the topping slab has been placed. The contours shown above reflect the upward deflection due to prestress force, downward deflection due to the hollow core slab self-weight and downward deflection due to the plastic (wet) topping weight.
Residual Camber is defined as the camber remaining in the hollow core slabs just after the topping slab has been placed. The contours shown above reflect the upward deflection due to prestress force, downward deflection due to the hollow core slab self-weight and downward deflection due to the plastic (wet) topping weight.
VOID DAMS - Void dams are provided by CTC to restrict the flow of C.I.P. concrete into the slab voids. Typically, the dam is placed six inches from the ends of the slab at voids without pour slots. The dam is placed two feet from the ends of the slab at voids with pour slots. This distance can be modified as required for embedment of reinforcement or to increase the slab end shear strength. To facilitate the placement and consolidation of the concrete fill, CTC recommends and provides blockouts in the top of the voids at locations where endfill length exceeds 1'-6".

BEARING - The recommended design bearing dimension is three inches with a field installation minimum of two inches. CTC recommends and furnishes a 3/8” x 1/4” neoprene end bearing strip to provide uniform bearing during erection. Final bearing is provided when C.I.P. concrete fills the remaining space.

GROUT KEYS - The longitudinal keys between adjacent slabs must be filled with grout to fully develop the concentrated load distribution and shear friction capacity of the Hollow Core slab system. CTC recommends a mix consisting of one (1) part cement to three (3) parts paving or builder's sand by weight, with a maximum water content of five (5) gallons per sack of cement.

RESISTANCE TO LATERAL LOADS - Lateral loads may be transmitted through Hollow Core slabs to resisting elements, such as frames or shear walls, by diaphragm action. When concrete topping is to be installed over the slabs, the diaphragm is normally designed to be in the topping. In this case, shear transfer takes place by shear friction, based on WWF mesh or other reinforcement in the topping. For untopped systems, diaphragm action is developed by means of shear friction reinforcement at the ends of the slabs, as described in CTA Technical Bulletin 80B3. It is important to detail this reinforcement such that it is effectively anchored into the lateral force resisting system, such as by reinforcement hooked into shear walls.

VOID DRAIN HOLES - Void drain holes will be installed in Hollow Core slabs. Cap top holes prior to soil backfill or topping pour to prevent material from washing into void and plugging drains. Drain holes must be cleaned out after end closure concrete pours are complete. The contractor may patch holes, if necessary, once the structure is weather proofed.

CONSTRUCTION LOADS - Once erected, the Hollow Core slabs form a safe platform for workers and normal construction tools. Avoid staging other construction materials on the slabs that have not had the joints grouted and the grout reach design strength. At no time should these materials exceed 1,000 pounds on a single slab or 1,500 pounds on any two adjacent slabs without prior written approval.

PENETRATIONS - CTC recommends that all penetrations less than 6" in diameter for mechanical, plumbing, electrical, etc. be field installed by the trades involved. Prior consultation with the Architect/Engineer and CTC is advisable to insure that the structural capacity of the system is not compromised. CTC recommends that openings larger than 6" be made at time of slab fabrication. Detailing of these openings on the design drawings will aid in the shop drawing/calculation submittal process. Refer to page 13 for design considerations when large openings are used.
Hollow Core Slabs may be notched to accommodate utilities, drains, through-columns or other items. The figures shown below serve as guidelines that shall be followed when detailing Hollow Core Slabs that require blockouts. Note that the values in the Span-Load Charts apply to Hollow Core Slabs WITHOUT blockouts. Rough openings through the voided area of a Hollow Core Slab normally have little effect on its load-carrying capacity. However, large blockouts that cut webs and strands can have a significant impact on the load-carrying capacity of the slab. Contact CTC's Marketing Department with questions regarding the capacity of Hollow Core Slabs with blockouts.

**CASE 1: Blockout ≤ 1'-10" Wide**

The maximum width of a blockout in any one Hollow Core Slab shall not exceed 1'-10".

**CASE 2: Blockout > 1'-10" Wide**

Hollow Core Hangers may be used to accommodate blockouts greater than 1'-10" wide. It is important to recognize that the hung slab imparts additional loading to the adjacent supporting slabs. The adjacent supporting slabs must be evaluated on a case by case basis to determine if they can support the additional loading imparted by the hung slab. Contact CTC's Marketing Department with questions regarding the capacity of the Hollow Core Slab & Hanger system.
Narrow-width slabs are available at additional cost by rip-cutting standard width slabs. Refer to the guidelines below for allowable ranges of ripped slab widths. Note that not all partial width slabs are available due to safety concerns during handling and erection.

**12” & 12½” ULTRASPAN**

- **WIDTH < 2'-2”** UNACCEPTABLE
- **2'-2” ≤ WIDTH ≤ 2'-7”** ACCEPTABLE
- **2'-7” < WIDTH < 3'-1½”** UNACCEPTABLE
- **3'-1½” ≤ WIDTH ≤ 3'-6½”** ACCEPTABLE
- **3'-6½” < WIDTH < 4'-0”** UNACCEPTABLE

**8” ULTRASPAN**

- **WIDTH < 1'-6”** UNACCEPTABLE
- **1'-6” ≤ WIDTH ≤ 1'-9”** ACCEPTABLE
- **1'-9” < WIDTH < 2'-1½”** UNACCEPTABLE
- **2'-1½” ≤ WIDTH ≤ 2'-4½”** ACCEPTABLE
- **2'-4½” < WIDTH < 2'-8½”** UNACCEPTABLE
- **2'-8½” ≤ WIDTH ≤ 2'-11½”** ACCEPTABLE
- **2'-11½” < WIDTH < 3'-4”** UNACCEPTABLE
- **3'-4” ≤ WIDTH ≤ 3'-7”** ACCEPTABLE
- **3'-7” < WIDTH < 4'-0”** UNACCEPTABLE
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DIMENSIONS FOR DETAILING

8" ULTRASPAN

12" ULTRASPAN

12½" ULTRASPAN
LEGEND  = NO DRILLING

8" ULTRASPAN

12" & 12½" ULTRASPAN