

The top outer edges of the concrete slab should be rounded with an edging tool. The top of the floor slab shall be not less than 7 3/4" above the bottom surface of the concrete sill. No part of the slab or concrete sill shall have serious honeycomb or be less than 1 3/4" thick. 1/2" bolt holes shall be cast in the slab at suitable locations as shown on plan for securely anchoring the privy house to the floor slab by means of bolts with suitable washers.

All reinforced concrete or reinforced cement mortar, privy floor slabs, when placed on concrete sills shall be capable of supporting a uniformly distributed load of at least 2,000 pounds, 7 days after casting. No privy floor slab shall be placed within 7 days after casting. The concrete or cement mortar floor slab shall be set level on an evenly compacted bearing over and around the pit curbing and the excavated material from the pit shall be back-filled and tamped around the foundation and slab to a point 1/2" below the top surface of the privy slab and extend level from this point at least 18" from the privy building and then slope off gradually to the original ground level so that the surface drainage shall be away from the pit in all directions. Where privy is built on the side of a hill it will be necessary to ditch on upper side of hill to prevent washing of the mound.

RULES FOR MAINTENANCE

EARTH PIT PRIVIES

1. The privy building shall afford a reasonable degree of protection from bad weather conditions.
2. The walls, floor and seat of the privy and the grounds immediately adjacent to the building must be kept in a clean and decent condition.
3. Chickens and other animals shall not be harbored in the privy building.
4. Seat cover shall be hinged and closed at all times when privy is not in use.
5. Flies shall be excluded from the pit at all times. (Note: The application of a cup full of kerosene or used oil once each week will assist in controlling mosquito breeding and keep down odors.)
6. When the pit becomes filled to within 18 inches of the top of the ground, the privy building must be moved to a new pit and the old pit completely covered with earth.
7. If the pit should cave in, a new pit shall be provided.
8. Ashes, garbage and trash shall be kept out of the pit.

The owner is responsible for Items 1, 6, and 7; the tenant is responsible for Items 2, 3, 4, 5, and 8.

Specifications For A Pit Privy

PREPARED BY THE
NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
RALEIGH, N. C.

The privy building should be framed of No. 2 common lumber, preferably D4S material, cut and securely spiked together with 20d spikes, so that the outside of the framework will be 4' square, and with the front studding 6' long and the rear studding 5' long.

The siding should be German siding, T & G roofers free from loose knots or weather boarding securely nailed with at least 2 nails at each bearing, painted with two coats of outside oil paint. In lieu of outside oil paint the privy may be painted with two coats of creosote or other wood preservative. The roofing should be of shingles, composition roofing, or galvanized metal roofing which shall be not less than #28 gauge. Roof rafters should be 5'-8" long and extend 5" from the plate at front of building. The door should be hung with two 6" T hinges secured with 1 1/2" No. 9 screws. The door should be secured on the inside with a hook and eye and on the outside the door shall be secured with a wooden button or other approved fastener.

The seat shall be smooth, washable material and constructed of such material as to make it fly tight, preferably T & G flooring. The lid shall be provided with hinges made from 4 ply automobile casings, metal, or other rust resisting hinges securely fastened in place. The seat assembly shall be fastened to the concrete riser by means of three 3/16" by 3" bolts cast in the top of riser to prevent cracks.

Sills shall be cast with a cross section of not less than 4" x 6" and may be cast in 4 pieces 47" long or in one piece with an inside dimension of 43". Sills should be reinforced with 2 pieces of 1/4" steel, barbed wire or equivalent. The sills of the privy building shall be securely bolted to the concrete slab by means of at least five 3/8" by 7" bolts with suitable washers. The sills of the privy building shall be raised one inch from the concrete slab by means of pipe nipples 1" long or small blocks 1" thick.

Ventilation of the pit shall not be mandatory but may be accomplished if desired by a screen opening through the seat lid, vent pipe from floor or top of riser, or by a T vent through sides of building.

The pit for the privy shall be dug at least 3' 6" square by at least 5' deep. A templet shall be used to secure a true square pit. Immediately upon completion the pit shall be lined with a wood curbing 3' 6" square, outside measurements and made from 1" or heavier material securely nailed to 2" by 4" corner posts, set the full depth of the pit, or at least as far as may be necessary to prevent caving of the ground around the pit. The top of the wood curbing shall extend not less than 1" nor more than 3" above the original ground surface. The privy floor slab shall be of reinforced concrete, or reinforced cement mortar may be used where coarse aggregate is not available. The reinforcing shall be 6" mesh, 10 gauge, welded wire fabric, or 2" mesh, 14 gauge welded wire fabric, or 1/4" pencil steel rods or equivalent. The top surface of the concrete slab shall be neatly finished and be not less than 50" square.

