

# Options for Header Extensions

There are several different options available for creating an extension of your existing header for a log stairway to rest against. Typically, you will need to cover about 24" of space from the finished floor at the top of the stairway to the bottom edge of the stringer. Depending on the layout of your stairway and the aesthetics you are looking for will determine which option will work best for you. This is by no means an exhaustive list, but this is what is most frequently done.

## Wooden Extension;

Attaching a 4" x 6" or 4" x 8" that is the same width as your tread to the existing rim joist using 3/8" lag bolts that have been counter sunk.

Some customers will actually use a 4" x 8" that has been cut to match the outside profile of the stringers as shown in Figure 1.

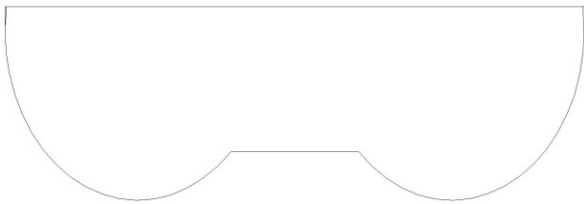


Figure 1. Header Extension

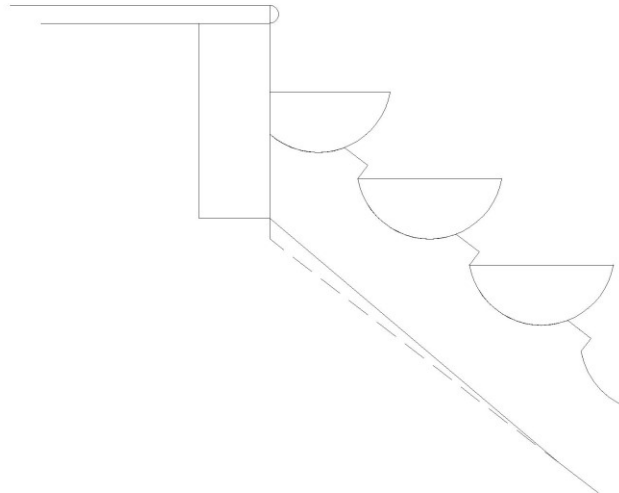


Figure 2. Tapered Stringer

## Tapering the Stringers;

If there is only going to be a few inches exposed some customers will taper the bottom of the stringer to the edge of the header as shown in Figure 2.

## Steel Plate;

Attaching a 1/4" steel plate to the face of the header that is the same width of the tread or from outside edge of stringer to outside edge of stringer using carriage bolts to secure the plate to the rim joist and lag bolts to secure the stringers to the plate.