

# Outdoor Furniture Dimensions

The numbers to design and check a build against. Inches. Ranges show where sources differ.

## 01 Seating

| SEAT                      | SEAT HEIGHT               | SEAT DEPTH                     | WIDTH PER PERSON            | BACK HEIGHT / ANGLE                     | NOTES                                      |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Dining chair              | 17 to 18                  | 16 to 18                       | 19 to 20 (arm chair 24)     | 12 to 20 above seat; 0 to 5 deg recline | Seat tilts back 5 to 8 deg                 |
| Bench (dining / patio)    | 17 to 18 (up to 20)       | 14 to 18                       | 20 to 24                    | Backless, or 12 to 16 above seat        | Seat 10 to 12 below tabletop               |
| Adirondack                | 14 to 16 at front         | 20 to 22                       | 20 to 23 between arms       | 28 to 32 above seat; 100 to 115 deg     | Seat slopes 15 to 20 deg; arms 20 to 24 up |
| Lounge / sofa (cushioned) | 16 to 18, cushion pressed | 20 to 22; deep lounge 24 to 28 | Loveseat 56 to 60; sofa ~90 | 15 to 18 above seat; to 25 deg          | Cushion 4 to 6, compresses 1 to 2          |
| Bar stool                 | 28 to 30                  | 12 to 17                       | 20 to 24 per stool          | Optional; 12 to 16 above seat           | For a 40 to 42 bar top                     |
| Counter stool             | 24 to 26                  | 12 to 17                       | 20 to 24 per stool          | Optional; 12 to 16 above seat           | For a 34 to 36 counter top                 |

Seat height is floor to top of seat with a person sitting. Press cushions before you measure.

## 02 Tables

| TABLE         | HEIGHT                    | WIDTH / DEPTH                   | LENGTH BY SEATS                      | OVERHANG / APRON                         |
|---------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Dining        | 29 to 30                  | 36 min, 40 preferred, 44 max    | 4: 48x36 · 6: 60 to 72 · 8: 84 to 96 | 10 to 12 edge to apron; 12 to 14 at ends |
| Coffee        | 16 to 18 (14 to 20 ok)    | 18 to 24 deep, 36 to 48 long    | About 2/3 the sofa length            | 16 to 18 from the sofa front             |
| Side / end    | 20 to 26 (24 typical)     | 17 to 22                        | One per arm                          | At the chair arm, or 2 below             |
| Bar table     | 40 to 42                  | 20 to 24 of edge per stool      | Stool seat 10 to 12 below top        | Check that arms clear the top            |
| Counter table | 34 to 36                  | 20 to 24 of edge per stool      | Stool seat 10 to 12 below top        | Check that arms clear the top            |
| Picnic        | 28 to 32 top (28 typical) | 27 to 30 top; 60 bench to bench | 72 seats 6 · 96 seats 8              | Bench 17 to 18 high, 10 to 14 below top  |

Length by seats uses 24 in. of edge per person. Convention, not a standard.

## 03 Clearances

| CLEARANCE                          | NUMBER                                         | SOURCE       |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Seat to tabletop                   | 10 to 12                                       | Convention   |
| Seat to apron bottom               | 7 minimum                                      | Convention   |
| Chair pull-out from the table edge | 18 to 24 (30 min. to a wall)                   | Convention   |
| Walkway behind a seated diner      | 36 min; 42 to 48 ideal                         | Convention   |
| Table edge per person              | 24 (20 tight; 26 to 30 roomy)                  | Convention   |
| Bench to table                     | Seat 10 to 14 below top; bench 2 to 4 shorter  | Convention   |
| Stool spacing                      | 20 to 24 per stool; 24 to 36 behind            | Convention   |
| ADA accessible table               | Top 28 to 34; knee 27 high x 30 wide x 19 deep | ADA Standard |
| ADA picnic table extras            | 30x48 floor space; 36 all sides; 9 toe         | ADA Standard |

ADA rows are the standard. Everything else is accepted furniture-trade convention.

## 04 The comfort rules

- Tabletop minus seat height = 10 to 12 in. Holds for dining, counter, and bar.
- Dining: seat tilts back 5 to 8 deg, back reclines 0 to 5. Lounging: 10 to 15 deg, seat-to-back 95 to 120.
- Arm height: 7 to 10 in. above the seat. Adirondack arms land 20 to 24 in. off the ground.
- Cushions: build the frame 4 to 6 in. below finished seat height and expect 1 to 2 in. of compression.
- Coffee table at seat height or 1 to 2 in. lower. Side table at arm height, within 2 in.
- Seat depth: 16 to 18 upright, 20 to 22 lounge, 24 to 28 deep lounge. Past 20 needs a pillow.

## 05 Pergola / shade structure (typical; check local code for structure)

- Clear height under the beams: 8 to 10 ft typical. Never under 7 ft.
- Footprint: 10x10 and 12x12 most common; 10x12 or larger over a dining set.
- Posts: 6x6 typical; 4x4 only with 4 to 6 ft between posts. Bury at least 1/3 of the post height.
- Beams: 2x8 minimum for most spans; 2x6 sags and looks thin past 12 ft.
- Rafters: 12 or 16 in. on center, never wider. Overhang past posts about 12 in. each side.

## 06 Design check before you cut

- Seat height, minus cushion compression, still lands at 16 to 18? Adirondack at 14 to 16?
- Tabletop minus seat = 10 to 12, and the apron bottom sits 7 above the seat?
- 24 in. of table edge per person, plus 10 to 12 in. of overhang past the legs at every seat?
- Chairs pull out 18 to 24 and people can still walk by with 36?
- Coffee table at or 1 to 2 under the seat; side table at the arm?

The rest of the shop-wall charts are free at [rogueengineer.com/guides](https://rogueengineer.com/guides). Built for the same projects as the **Outdoor Table + 4x4 Bench plans**.

Reference values compiled from manufacturer and industry sources and checked 2026-09; your lumber, hardware, and local code govern. Free for personal use; please share the link, not the file. © Rogue Engineer LLC.

Be safe and happy building.

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