Creating a Carport

QUESTION

I want to add an attached carport to my shop or house. How do I go about creating that in Chief Architect?
ANSWER

You can create an attached carport very easily in Chief Architect using manual roof planes.

For the purposes of this article, we use an existing 24' x 40' structure, with a Ceiling Height of 12'. The roof is a basic gable at a 6/12 pitch with the overhang set to 2 1/2", as in the image below.

To set the defaults

1. Select **Edit> Default Settings**.

2. In the **Default Settings** dialog, expand the **Walls** category, select **Deck Railing**, then click on the **Edit** button.

3. On the **RAIL STYLE** panel of the **Deck Railing Defaults** dialog:
• Move the radio button to **Open**.

• Check the **No Half Post at Wall** checkbox.

• Move the radio button to **Post to Ceiling**

• Clear the checkbox for both **Include Top Rail** and **Include Bottom Rail**

4. On the **Newels/Balusters** panel, set the **Width** to **4"** and set the **Spacing** to **144" On Center**

5. Click **OK**, then click **Done** to apply the changes and close the dialogs.
To draw Railings

1. Go to the Build> Railing and Deck> Straight Deck Railing, then draw three deck railing walls attached to the left side of the existing structure, as in the image below.

![Image of deck railing]

2. Select the left deck railing, and use the Temporary dimension that displays to set the railing 12' from the house.
3. Using the Select Objects tool, select the newly created Deck room, then click on the Open Object edit button.

4. On the General panel of the Room Specification dialog that opens, use the Room Type drop-down menu and change the Deck to a Slab room.

5. On the Structure panel, uncheck Flat Ceiling Over This Room and Roof Over This Room, then click OK.
To draw the Carport Roof

1. Using the **Select Objects** tool, click to select the existing main structure's left roof plane, then click the **Open Object** edit button.

   If you have trouble selecting the roof plane, click on the edge of it, and then click the Next edit tool or press the Tab key on the keyboard to cycle through the objects that occupy that space to get to the roof plane.

2. On the **General** panel of the **Roof Plane Specification** dialog that opens, write down the **Fascia Top Height**

   In this example, 150 7/8" is used.
3. On the **Gutter** panel, set the **Gutter On Selected Edge** to **Off**.

In Chief Architect X10 and prior program versions, the gutter can be removed by unchecking the **Gutter** checkbox located on the **Options** panel.

4. Click **OK** to apply the change and close the dialog.

5. Next, select **Build > Roof > Roof Plane** and click and drag out a roof plane baseline along the outer edge of the railing, then click in the deck room to specify the direction of the ridge.
6. Select the Roof Plane and use its edit handles to resize the roof plane until it completely covers the carport.

7. With the Roof Plane still selected, click on the Open Object edit button.

8. On the General panel of the Roof Plane Specification dialog, set the Ridge Top Height to the height of the Fascia Top Height recorded earlier, then click OK to apply this change and close the dialog.

   In this example, 150 7/8" is used.

9. Finally, select 3D> Create Perspective View> Perspective Full Overview to see
the results.