

Wood "I" Beams by Finn Home Inspectors

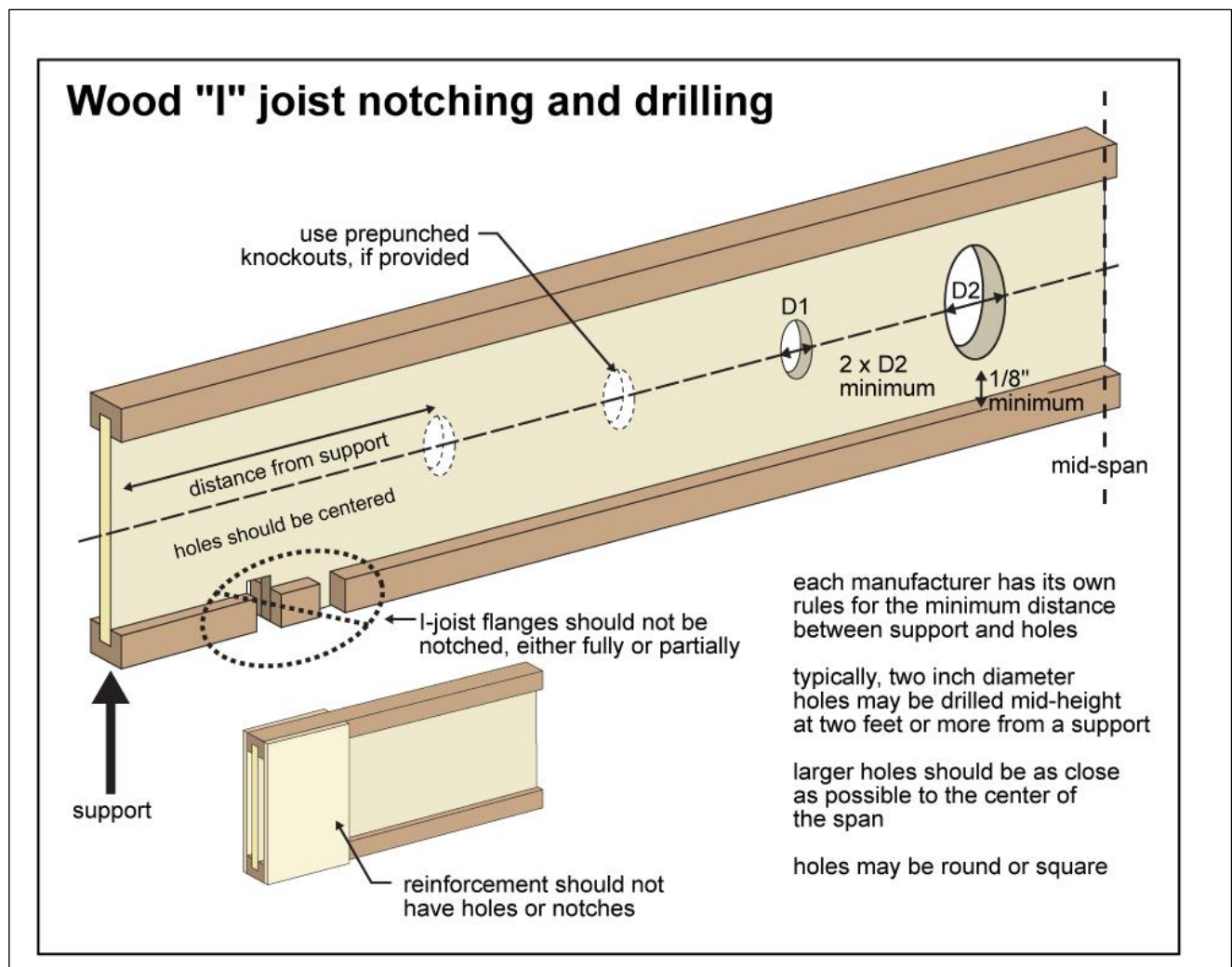
Notches, cuts and holes in joists, beams or rafters can severely reduce their strength and can lead to failure/collapse in the worst cases. The main beam should have no holes or notches.

Some notches and holes are allowed, see diagrams below. Note: depending on type of joist determines what is allowed and what is not.

Wood "I" joists cannot have any cuts, notches or damage in their top or bottom flanges. Actually, they may need additional reinforcing if there is a load bearing above, such as a wall.

Your inspector will call these defects out and recommend a contractor quote costs to correct as needed.

Top diagram from Carson/Dunlop.



Wood I beam- Top flange cut, must be repaired, Repair design by Engineer.



Wood Floor Truss- Top cord cut through, Need Engineer to design repair.