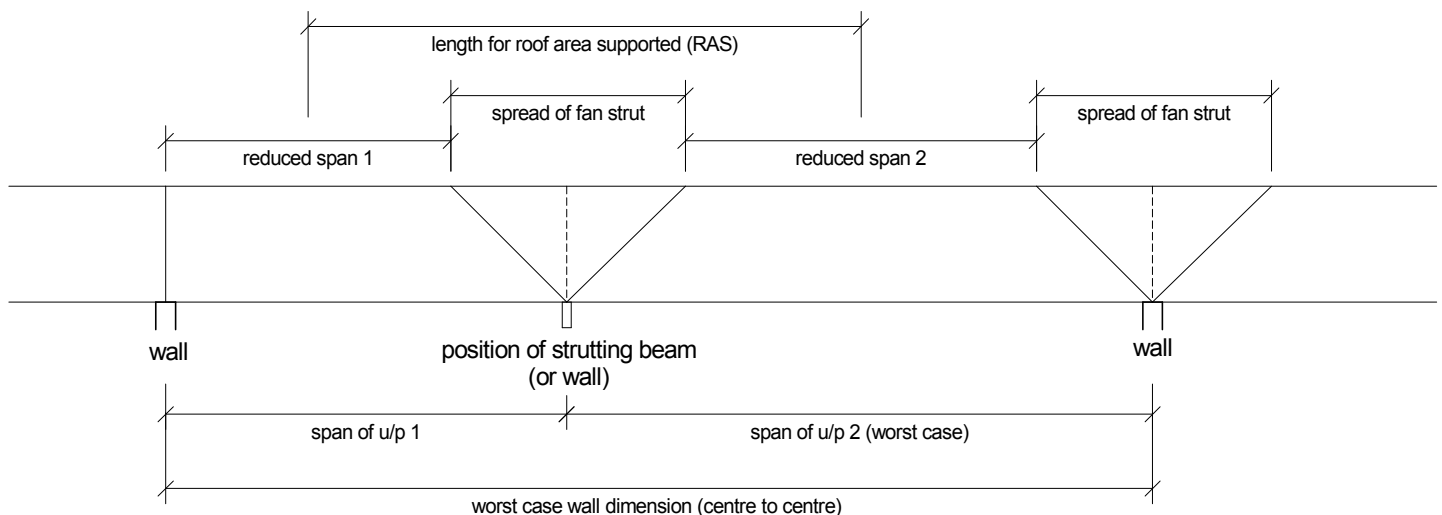


Rafter run = overall external width (timber framed, not for brick veneer) divided by two.  
 Rafter span = rafter run divided by  $\cos \alpha^\circ$ .  
 Overhang = eaves width divided by  $\cos \alpha^\circ$  (add dimensions for brick veneer).  
 Ridge strut = rafter run  $\times \tan \alpha^\circ$ .  
 Decide whether an underpurlin is needed; if it is place it at mid-span.  
 New rafter span = rafter span found in 2) divided by two.  
 Strut perpendicular to rafter = rafter span  $\times \tan \alpha^\circ$  (if u/p positioned at midspan).  
 Vertical strut to underpurlin = ridge strut length divided by 2 (if u/p positioned at midspan).  
 Roof load width (RLW) = rafter span (if placed at midspan) otherwise  $\frac{1}{2}$  span1 +  $\frac{1}{2}$  span2.

## Underpurlin & Fan strut example



Determine the position of struts (usually on supporting walls).  
 If the distance between supporting walls is excessive a strutting beam may be needed.  
 Span of underpurlin can also be reduced if fan-strut is used.  
 Determine the length of the strut (perpendicular or vertical to rafter)  
 and the dimensions between the struts (or fan-struts).  
 Find the worst case and calculate the span of the underpurlin.  
 Roof load area =  $RLW \times (\frac{1}{2} \text{ u/p span left} + \frac{1}{2} \text{ u/p span right from strut})$   
 (with fan strut) =  $RLW \times (\frac{1}{2} \text{ u/p reduced span left} + \text{spread of fan strut} + \frac{1}{2} \text{ u/p reduced span right})$   
 Hanging beams are required if ceiling joist span is excessive.  
 Place hanging beams in center of room or if needed divide room length/width by 3 (4)  
 and space them equally.