

Notable IRC Changes 2018 to 2024 IRC

Instructor: Russell Thornburg

ICC Resources Available

ICC Digital Code 2024 International Residential Code without Energy (IRC)



Resources



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Background:

Building Contractor - 1984 to present
Building Inspector Technician - 1997 - 2 years
Field Inspector - 1997 - 2020
Residential Plans Examiner - 1997 - to present
Code Development Committee - started 2001
Instructor - 1998 - present
Code Consultant - 2005 to present
Program Manager - Short Stint
Willdan - Residential Plans Examiner - 2023
Field Inspector

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Introduction

Identifying Changes within the Codes




- ❑ The 2024 I-Code print editions replace the marginal markings with QR codes to identify code changes more precisely.
- ❑ A QR code is placed at the beginning of any section that has undergone technical revision.
- ❑ If there is no QR code, there are no technical changes to that section.

Electronically Identified

Section R104 2024

Duties and Powers of the Building Official



Section R104
Overhauled
Reviewing for code
alternate materials,
designs and methods
are evaluated

ADM13-22 Part II, AM, RB15-22 AS, RB16-22 AS 9

Section R104 2024

Duties and Powers of the Building Official

□ **R104.2.1 Listed compliance.** Where this code or a referenced standard requires equipment, materials, products or services to be listed and a listing standard is specified, the listing shall be based on the specified standard. Where a listing standard is not specified, the listing shall be based on an approved listing criteria. Listings shall be in accordance with the listing and the manufacturer's instructions, and where required to verify compliance, the listing standard and manufacturer's instructions shall be made available to the building official.

Germane = relevant to a subject under consideration

ADM13-22 Part II, AM, RB15-22 AS, RB16-22 AS Thornburg Code Services 11

Section R104 2024

Duties and Powers of the Building Official

R104.2 Determination of compliance. The building official shall have the authority to determine compliance with this code, to render interpretations of this code and to adopt policies ~~and~~ procedures; ~~rules and regulations~~ in order to clarify the application of this code's provisions. Such interpretations, policies ~~and~~ procedures; ~~rules and regulations~~:

1. Shall be in compliance with the intent and purpose of this code.
2. Shall not have the effect of waiving requirements specifically provided for in this code.

ADM13-22 Part II, AM, RB15-22 AS, RB16-22 AS Thornburg Code Services 10

Section R104 2024


Duties and Powers of the Building Official

R104.2.2.1 Approval authority.

□ An alternative material, design or method of construction shall be approved where the building official finds that the proposed alternative is satisfactory and complies with Sections R104.2.2 through R104.2.2.6.2, as applicable.

Approved where the building official finds that the proposed alternative is satisfactory...

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Section R104


2024

Duties and Powers of the Building Official

R104.2.2.4 Equivalency criteria.
An alternative material, design or method of construction shall, for the purpose intended, be not less than the equivalent of that prescribed in this code with respect to all the following, as applicable:

1. Quality.
2. Strength.
3. Effectiveness.
4. Durability.
5. Safety, other than fire safety.
6. Fire safety.

ADM15-25 Part II, ADM27-25 Part II, ADM28-25 Part II
Thornburg Code Services
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Section R104

Duties and Powers of the Building Official

- General
- [R104.2 Determination of compliance](#)
- [R104.2.1 Listed compliance](#)
- [R104.2.2 ~~R104.2.2~~ Alternative materials, design and methods of construction and equipment](#)
 - [R104.2.2.1 Approval authority](#)
 - [R104.2.2.2 Application and disposition](#)
 - [R104.2.2.3 Compliance with code intent](#)
 - [R104.2.2.4 Equivalency criteria](#)
 - [R104.2.2.5 ~~R104.2.2.5~~ Tests](#)
- [R104.2.2.6 Reports](#)
 - [R104.2.2.6.1 Evaluation reports](#)
 - [R104.2.2.6.2 Other reports](#)
- [R104.2.3 ~~R104.2.3~~ Modifications](#)
 - [R104.2.3.1 ~~R104.2.3.1~~ Flood hazard areas](#)
- [R104.3 ~~R104.3~~ Applications and permits](#)
- [R104.4 ~~R104.4~~ Right of entry](#)
 - [R104.4.1 Warrant](#)
- [R104.5 Identification](#)
- [R104.6 ~~R104.6~~ Notices and orders](#)

Thornburg Code Services
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Section R104


2024

Duties and Powers of the Building Official

R104.2.2.5 Tests. ~~R104.2.2.5~~
Tests conducted to demonstrate equivalency in support of an alternative material, design or method of construction application shall be of a scale that is sufficient to predict performance of the end use configuration. *Such tests* shall be performed by a party acceptable to the *building official*.

This modification makes testing only required when needed.
Adding 'such' takes the ambiguity out of what testing is required.

ADM15-25 Part II
Thornburg Code Services
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Section R104

Duties and Powers of the Building Official

- [R104.7 Official ~~Department~~ records](#)
 - [R104.7.1 Approvals](#)
 - [R104.7.2 ~~R104.7.2~~ Inspections](#)
 - [R104.7.3 Code alternatives and modifications](#)
 - [R104.7.4 Tests](#)
 - [R104.7.5 Fees](#)
- [R104.8 Liability](#)
 - [R104.8.1 Legal defense](#)
- [R104.9 Approved materials and equipment](#)
 - [R104.9.1 ~~Materials and equipment reuse~~](#)

Thornburg Code Services
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Definition - Clarified



Section R202, R319, R702.3


2018

☐ [RB] **GRADE FLOOR EMERGENCY ESCAPE AND RESCUE OPENING.**
~~A window or other~~ An emergency escape and rescue opening located such that the ~~sill~~ height ~~of the bottom~~ of the ~~clear~~ opening is not more than 44" above or below the finished ground level adjacent to the opening. (See also "Emergency escape and rescue opening – R319.")

☐ [RB] **GYPSUM BOARD.** The generic name for a family of sheet products ~~A type of gypsum panel product~~ consisting of a noncombustible core primarily of gypsum with paper surfacing. Gypsum wallboard, gypsum sheathing, gypsum base for gypsum veneer plaster, exterior gypsum soffit board, predecorated gypsum board and water-resistant gypsum backing board complying with the standards listed in Section R702.3 and Part IX of this code are types of gypsum board.


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Modification



Chapter 2 Definitions

2018




[RB] **HISTORIC BUILDING.** Buildings that are listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, or designated as historic under an appropriate state or local law. A building or structure that is one or more of the following:

1. Listed, or certified as eligible for listing, by the State Historic Preservation Officer or the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places in the National Register of Historic Places.
2. Designated as historic under an applicable state or local law.
3. Certified as a contributing resource within a National Register-listed, or a state-designated or locally designated historic district.

For the definition applicable in Chapter 11, see Section N1101.6.

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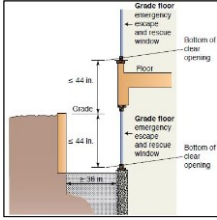
Chapter 2 - Definition



Grade Floor - EERO

2021 IRC

☐ **Grade Floor Emergency Escape And Rescue Opening.**
~~A window or other~~ An emergency escape and rescue opening located such that the ~~sill~~ height ~~bottom~~ of the ~~clear~~ opening is not more than 44 inches above or below the finished ground level adjacent to the opening.




International Residential Code

What could be added to this illustration?

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Definition - Change - Habitable Attic



Chapter 2 Definition - Habitable Attic


2018

☐ Finished or unfinished space


☒ **Not considered a story** for purposes of determining a 3-story structure

☒ **Must comply with ALL** of these:

- 1.- Occupiable floor area ≥ 70 sq ft
- 2.- Ceiling height of 7' for at least 35 sq ft.
- 3.- Space is enclosed by a roof assembly, knee walls (if applicable) and floor/ceiling below.



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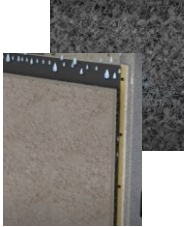


Section R202 (New), Table R702.7.3

2024 IRC


Definition

□ **RAINSCREEN SYSTEM.**
 An assembly applied to the exterior side of an exterior wall which consists of, at minimum, an outer layer, an inner layer, and a cavity between them sufficient for the passive removal of liquid water and water vapor.



RB28-22

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Chapter 3 – Completely Over Hauled Number System

2024 IRC


Building and Planning

- Section R301 -Design Criteria
- Section R302 Fire-Resistant Construction
- Section R303 R316 Foam Plastic
- Section R304 R347 Protection of Wood and Wood Based Products Against Decay
- Section R305 R348 Protection Against Subterranean Termites
- Section R306 R322 Flood-Resistant Construction
- Section R307 R323 Storm Shelters
- Section R308 R349 Site Address
- Section R309 R343 Automatic Fire Sprinkles Systems



RB32-22, RB 110-22

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
Section R202, 315

2024 IRC

Definition - Clarified


□ **[RB] SLEEPING LOFT.** A space designated for sleeping on an intermediate level or levels between the floor and ceiling of a story, open on one or more sides to the room in which the space is located, and in accordance with Section R315. (2024)

□ **[RB] SLEEPING UNIT.** A single unit that provides rooms or spaces for one or more persons, includes permanent provisions for sleeping and can include provisions for living, eating and either sanitation or kitchen facilities but not both. Such rooms and spaces that are also part of a dwelling unit are not sleeping units. For the definition applicable in Chapter 11, see Section N1101.6. (2021)



RB32-22, RB 110-22

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


Chapter 3 – Completely Over Hauled Number System

2024 IRC

Building and Planning

- Section R310 R344 Smoke Alarms
- Section R311 R345 Carbon Monoxide Alarms
- Section R312 R304 Minimum Room Areas
- Section R313 R305 Ceiling Height
- Section R314 R325 Mezzanines
- Section R315 Sleeping Lofts
- Section R316 R326 Habitable Attics
- Section R317 R309 Garage and Carports
- Section R318 R311 Means of Egress
- Section R319 R310 Emergency Escape and Rescue Openings (EERO)
- Section R320 R311-7.8 Handrails R318.7.8
- Section R321 R312 Guards and Window Fall Protection



RB32-22, RB 110-22

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Chapter 3 – Completely Over Hauled Number System 2024 IRC

Building and Planning

- [Section R322](#) ~~R320~~ Accessibility
- [Section R323](#) ~~R321~~ Elevator and Platform
- [Section R324](#) ~~R308~~ Glazing
- [Section R325](#) ~~R303~~ Light, Ventilation and Heating
- [Section R326](#) ~~R306~~ Sanitation
- [Section R327](#) ~~R307~~ Toilet, Bath and Shower Spaces
- [Section R328](#) ~~R327~~ Swimming Pools, Spas and Hot Tubs
- [Section R329](#) [Solar Energy System](#)
- [Section R330](#) ~~R328~~ Energy Storage System
- [Section R331](#) ~~R329~~ Stationary Engine Generators
- [Section R332](#) ~~R330~~ Stationary Fuel Cell System

RB32-22, RB 110-22 29

Code & Results

Code Section

- ADM = Administration
- RB = IRC Building
- S = IBC - Structural
- G = IBC - General
- RM = IRC Mechanical
- M = Mechanical
- RP = IRC Plumbing
- P = Plumbing
- CCC = Code Correlation Committee
- NEC = National Electric Code
- AS = Approved as Submitted
- AM = Approved as Modified at the Committee Action Hearing
- AMPC = Approved as Modified by Public Comment
- D = Disapproved
- NYS = Where a change is made by NYS, rather than an ICC level change, "[NYS]" is added to the section numbers

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Chapter 3 – The Intent of Restructure 2024 IRC

Building and Planning

Reason: There are no technical changes to the text - this is a reorganization to improve usability of the code. Over the years there have been numbers added to IRC Chapter 3 without a general look at grouping or organization. The biggest stretch are the room area (R304) and height (R305) being multiple sections away from mezzanines (R325) and habitable attics (R326). The intent of this proposal is to reorganize the requirements into areas for the following:

- Structural (Passive Fire Resistance) R301-307
- Fire (Active fire Resistance) R308-311
- Rooms and spaces R312-317
- Means of egress R318-R321
- Accessibility/Elevators R320-R321
- MEP (Home Safety) R322-R328
- Energy R329-R332

Cost Impact: The code change proposal will not increase or decrease the cost of construction

This proposal is only to reorganize the sections in Chapter 3 for ease of use. There are no technical changes.

RB32-22 30

Section R202 (New), Table R702.7.3 2024 IRC

Sections - Titles - Proponent

Ch 3	Chapter 3 Reorganization	RB32-22 AS
R301.2.1 CBC	Components and Cladding	RB75-22 AS
R301.2.1.1	Wind Maps	RB50-22 AS
R301.2.2	Buildings Required to Meet Seismic Provisions	RB77 AS, RB88 AS, RB104-22 AM
R301.2.2.10	Seismic Restraint	RB109-22 AM
R301.2.3 Snow Maps	Snow Loads	RB38-22 AS
R302.1	Exterior Walls	RB48 AMPC
R302.1.1	Two-Family Dwellings	RB61 AMPC, RB63 AMPC3, RB14 AS, CCCRC12-2022
R302.1.2	Stacked Dwelling Units	RB61 AMPC
R302.1.4	Shared Accessory Rooms	RB64 AMPC3
R302.1.5	Flood Protection	RB75-22 AS
R304 R305	Room Plastic	RB117 AS, RB12 AS
Reas-R E306.4	Flood Hazard Area	RB117 AS
Reas-R E306.5	Coastal High Hazard Areas	RB117 AS, RB 119 AS, RB15 AS
Reas R310	Inmate Alarms	RB121 AS, RB12 AMPC, RB131 AMPC3, RB14 AS
Reas R315	Sleeping Lofts	RB151 AMPC3, 1, RB12 AS
Reas R317	Stairways	RB67 AMPC, RB68 AS
Reas-R4 R318.7.6	Stairways Landings	R107 AS, RB108 AS, RB100 AMPC
Reas-R4 R318.8	Stairways	R107 AS, RB108 AS, RB100 AMPC
Reas-R4 R320	Handrails	RB110 AS, RB111 AM, RB112 AM, RB114 AM
R320 R322	Accessibility	RB134 AM, RB12 AS, RB12 AS
Reas R E323	Generators and Generators	RB 135 AS, RB12 AS
Reas-R4 R324.6.3	Light, Ventilation and Heating	RB84-22 AM
Reas R325	Screens	RB76-22 AM
Reas R326	Photovoltaic Systems	RB145-22 AS, RB150-22 AMPC
Reas-R E326.4	Energy Storage System Locations	RB155 AS, RB157 AM
Reas-R E326.5	Inmate Protection	RB46-22 AS

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Wind Force and Loading - Figure R301.2.1 2024 IRC

Component and Cladding (CQ)

- A zone refers to areas of a wall or roof as illustrated in Figure R301.2.1 which shows corner, edge and interior regions for flat, gable and hip roofs
- The figure is used in tandem with Table R301.2.1(4) to determine component and cladding pressures in any area of the roof or a wall
- High pressures in one or more regions of a roof often require tighter nailing patterns

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Wind Force and Loading 2021 IRC, 2024 IRC

R301.2.1 Wind Design Criteria.

- Metal roof shingles shall be designed for wind speeds in accordance with Section R905.4.4.** A continuous load path shall be provided to transmit the applicable uplift forces in Section R902.11 from the roof assembly to the foundation. Where ultimate design wind speeds in Figure R301.2(2) are less than the lowest wind speed indicated in the prescriptive provisions of this code, the lowest wind speed indicated in the prescriptive provisions of this code shall be used.
- R905.4.4.1 Wind resistance of metal roof shingles.**
Metal roof shingles fastened to wood structural panels, solid lumber sheathing, or closely fitted lumber sheathing applied to a solid or closely fitted deck shall be tested in accordance with ASTM D3161, FM 4474, UL 580 or UL 1897. Metal roof shingles tested in accordance with ASTM D3161 shall meet the classification requirements of Table R905.4.4.1 for the appropriate maximum basic wind speed and the metal shingle packaging shall bear a label to indicate compliance with ASTM D3161 and the required classification in Table R905.4.4.1.

RB-279-19, RB-254-22

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Wind Force and Loading

Component and Cladding (CQ)

- MWFRS – Main Wind-Force Resisting Systems**
 - The Wind loads act on the frame and foundation of a building
 - These loads try to tip, twist, and shake the building as a whole
- C & C – Components and Cladding**

The metal roof and wall panels would be considered cladding. The overhead door, walk door, and window would be considered components. Also, the roof purlins and wall girts are receiving loading from the cladding and are, therefore, also considered components.

ASCE 7 guideline is the go-to resource for wind load calculations. This guideline takes into account several factors, including wind speed, wind directionality factor, exposure category, topographic factors, ground elevation, and building enclosure. (MWFRS)

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Classification of Steep Slope Metal Roof Shingles Tested - ASTM 3161 2021 IRC

Incomplete / Partial Table

TABLE R905.4.4.1—CLASSIFICATION OF STEEP-SLOPE METAL ROOF SHINGLES TESTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ASTM D3161

MAXIMUM ULTIMATE DESIGN WIND SPEED, V_{ult} FROM FIGURE R301.2(2) (mph)	MAXIMUM BASIC WIND SPEED, V_{br} FROM TABLE R301.2.1.3 (mph)	ASTM D3161 SHINGLE CLASSIFICATION
110	85	A, D or F
116	90	A, D or F
129	100	A, D or F
142	110	F
155	120	F

RB-279-19

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Wind Force and Loading 2021 IRC
2024 IRC

TABLE R301.2.1(1)
Component and Cladding Loads for a Building with a mean Roof Height of 30 Feet Located in Exposure B (ASD) (psf) ^{a, b, c, d, e, f, g}

Wind pressure increases with greater height in Exposure B while negative (suction) pressure reduced on roofs

ZONE	EFFECTIVE WIND AREAS (square feet)	Ultimate Design Wind Speed, V_u									
		90.0		95.0		100.0		105.0		110.0	
		Pos	Neg	Pos	Neg	Pos	Neg	Pos	Neg	Pos	Neg
1, 1	10	3.6	-13.9	4.0	-15.5	4.4	-17.2	4.8	-19.0	5.3	-20.8
	20	3.3	-12.4	3.7	-13.8	4.1	-15.3	4.5	-16.8	5.0	-18.5
	50	3.0	-10.3	3.4	-11.5	3.8	-12.7	4.1	-14.0	4.5	-15.4
	100	2.8	-8.7	3.1	-9.7	3.5	-10.8	3.8	-11.9	4.2	-13.1
2	10	3.6	-18.4	4.0	-20.5	4.4	-22.7	4.8	-25.0	5.3	-27.4
	20	3.3	-16.4	3.7	-18.2	4.1	-20.2	4.5	-22.3	5.0	-24.5
	50	3.0	-13.7	3.4	-15.3	3.8	-16.9	4.1	-18.7	4.5	-20.5
	100	2.8	-11.7	3.1	-13.0	3.5	-14.5	3.8	-15.9	4.2	-17.5

RB35-22 37

Wind Force and Loading – Figure R302.2.1 2021 IRC
2024 IRC

Gable and Flat Roofs $\theta < 7^\circ$
Flat roof zones 0 to 7 degrees
(1.5:12 slope or less)

- A roof slope of $< 7^\circ$ is considered **flat** and has corner zones that wrap around the edge of the roof
- The width and length of these zones depends upon the height (h) of the house

PLAN

RB35-22 39

Wind Force and Loading 2024 IRC

Table R301.2.1(2)

Means Roof Height	Exposure		
	B	C	D
15	0.82	1.21	1.47
20	0.89	1.29	1.55
25	0.94	1.35	1.61
30	1	1.4	1.66
35	1.05	1.45	1.7
40	1.09	1.49	1.74
45	1.1	1.53	1.78
50	1.13	1.56	1.81
55	1.16	1.59	1.84
60	1.19	1.62	1.87

- Exposure Coefficients
- Decreased for Tall Buildings

RB35-22 38

Wind Force and Loading – Figure R302.2.1 2024 IRC

Gable Roofs $7^\circ < \theta < 45^\circ$ – 2021 IRC
(1.5:12 to 12:12 slope)

Gable Roof 7 to 27° – 7 - 2024 IRC
(1.5:12 to 6:12 slope)

- A gable roof has edge and corner zones which **change** depending upon the steepness of the roof slope

PLAN VIEW

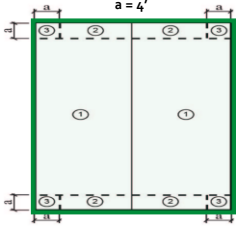
RB35-22 40

Wind Force and Loading – Figure R302.2.1 2024 IRC

Component and Cladding (CQ)

2024 IRC

- Gable Roofs $27^\circ < \phi \leq 45^\circ$ (6:12 to 12:12 slope)
- Gable roofs are now split into **lower slope** $< 6:12$ and **higher slope** $> 6:12$



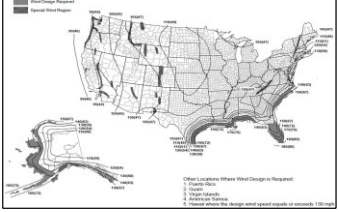
Zones are simplified, but C&C loads for fasteners (EWA=10) still assume worst case. So, fastener spacings will not change. EWA - Effective Wind Area.

RB35-22 44

Wind Force 2024 IRC

Wind Design Required

- Figure R301.2.1.1
- Areas of the Gulf Coast and Alaska that require structural design for wind loads are updated
- Figure 301.2.(2)
- Figure updated to match wind loads in the IBC and ASCE 7

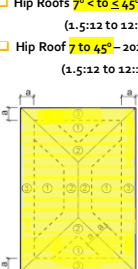



B35-22 43

Wind Force and Loading – Figure R302.2.1 2024 IRC

Component and Cladding (CQ)

- Hip Roofs $7^\circ < \phi \leq 45^\circ$ – 2021 IRC (1.5:12 to 12:12 slope)
- Hip Roof 7° to 45° – 2024 IRC (1.5:12 to 12:12 slope)
- A hip roof has edge and corner zones that **vary** over the roof

PLAN VIEW

RB35-22 43

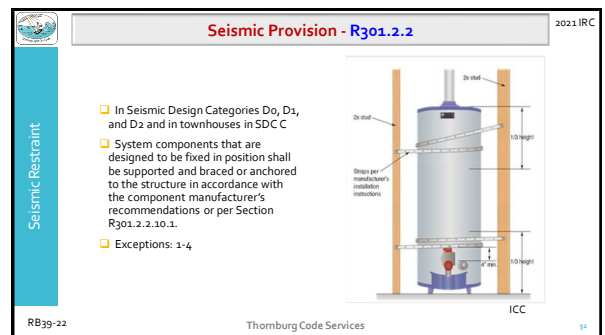
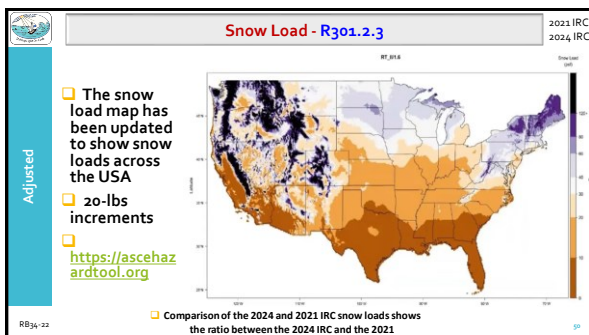
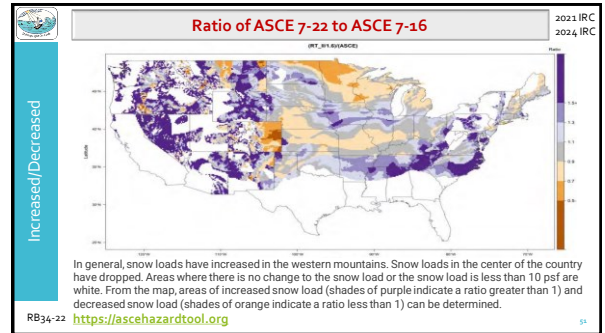
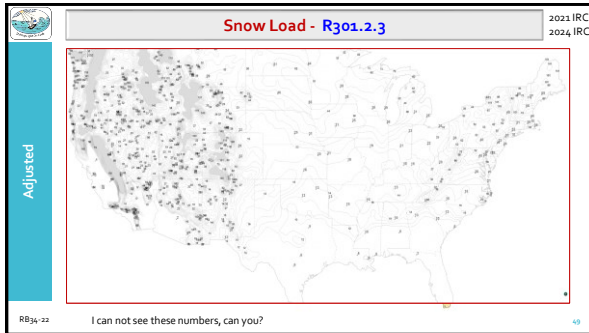
Wind Speed Conversions^a

R301.2.1.3 Wind speed conversion. Where referenced documents are based on nominal design wind speeds and do not provide the means for conversion between ultimate design wind speeds and nominal design wind speeds, the ultimate design wind speeds, V_{ult} , of Figure R301.2(2) shall be converted to nominal design wind speeds, V_{nom} , using Table R301.2.1.3.

V_{ult}	110	115	120	130	140	150	160	170	180	190	200
V_{nom}	85	89	93	101	108	116	124	132	139	147	155

For 31.1 mile per hour = 0.447 m/s.
a. Linear interpolation is permitted.

Table R301.2.1.3 44



Clarification

Live Loads – Table R301.5

2021 IRC

TABLE R301.5 MINIMUM UNIFORMLY DISTRIBUTED AND CONCENTRATED LIVE LOADS (in pounds per square foot)

DESCRIPTION OR USE	UNIFORM LIVE LOAD (psf)	CONCENTRATED LOAD (lbs)
Uninhabitable attics without storage ^a	10	—
Uninhabitable attics with limited storage ^a	20	—
Habitable attics and attics served with fixed stairs	30	—
Balconies (entire) and decks ^b	40	—
Fire escapes	40	—
Garage and carports ^c	200 ^d	2000 ^e
Ground-to-fill components ^f	50 ^g	500 ^g
Handicapped ^h	—	2000 ⁱ
Passenger vehicle garages ^j	30 ^k	2,000 ^l
Areas Reserved other than sleeping areas rooms	40	—
Sleeping areas rooms	40	—
Roofs	40 ^m	2000 ⁿ

For ^a 1 pound per square foot = 0.0479 kPa, 1 square inch = 645 mm², 1 pound = 4.45 N.

1. Elevated garage floors shall be capable of supporting the uniformly distributed live load on a 2,000-pound load applied over a six-square-inch area concentrated load applied on an area of 3.12 inches by 3.12 inches, whichever produces the greatest stresses.

2. Chairs used in handrail assemblies and guards shall be designed with a safety load adjustment factor of 4. The safety load adjustment factor shall be applied to each of the concentrated loads applied to the top of the rail, and the load on the six fill components. These loads shall be determined independent of one another, and loads are assumed not to occur with any other live load.

3. Where the top of a guard system is not required to serve as a handrail, the single concentrated load shall be applied at any point along the top, in the vertical downward direction and in the horizontal direction away from the walking surface. Where the top of a guard is also serving as the handrail, a single concentrated load shall be applied in any direction at any point along the top. Concentrated load shall not be applied concurrently.

REMARK: VERTICAL
The top of a guard is also serving as the handrail, a single concentrated load shall be applied in any direction at any point along the top. Concentrated load shall not be applied concurrently.

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Story Height

2021 IRC

R301.3 - Modified

- Story height limited to 13'-7" meeting except. 2 or 3 of R602.3.1
- Previously: Conditional 11' – 7"
- Floor height limited by stud height of 10' plus 16" for top plates and joists

55

Story Height - R301.3

2021 IRC

R301.3 - Modified

Exception:

- Maximum story height for wood wall framing is 13'-7" when the except. 2 or 3 design requirements are met of R602.3.1
- Or engineer design

- Max. bearing wall stud heights of 10'
- Max. floor framing 16" in depth
- Max. bearing wall stud height of 12 feet when an engineered design

54

Story Height

2021 IRC

R301.3 - Modified

Load	Stud Height (feet)		
	≤ 10	10 to ≤ 12	> 12
Load Bearing Studs	No engineering required	Engineering required unless a Section R602.3.1 exception is met: Exc. 2 – snow load and tributary length limit Exc. 3 – snow load and span limits, only Exp B	Engineering always required
Non-loadbearing Studs	No engineering required	No engineering required for 2x4 and larger studs	Engineering required unless limits of Table R602.3(5) are met

56

2021 & 2024 IRC

Definitions – Old & New - Overview

2021 IRC Definitions

[RB] **DWELLING.** Any building that contains one or two dwelling units used, intended, or designed to be built, used, rented, leased, let or hired out to be occupied, or that are occupied for living purposes.

[RB] **DWELLING UNIT.** A single unit providing complete independent living facilities for one or more persons, including permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking and sanitation. For the definition applicable in [Chapter 11](#), see [Section N1101.6](#).

[RB] **LOT.** A measured portion or parcel of land considered as a unit having fixed boundaries.

[RB] **LOT LINE.** The line that bounds a plot of ground described as a lot in the title to the property.

[RB] **TOWNHOUSE.** A building that contains three or more attached townhouse units.

[RB] **TOWNHOUSE UNIT.** A single-family dwelling unit in a townhouse that extends from foundation to roof and that has a yard or public way on not less than two sides.

2024 IRC Definition

[RB] **FIRE SEPARATION DISTANCE.** The distance measured from the building face to one of the following:

1. To the closest interior lot line.
2. To the centerline of a street, an alley or public way.
3. To an imaginary line between two buildings or townhouse units on the lot.

Thornburg Code Services


57

2024 IRC

Exterior Walls – R302.1

FSD

- Defining fire separation distance when there are multiple dwellings or townhouse buildings on the **same lot** is added
- All units have measurements distance Table R302.1(1) or Table R302.1(2)



RB47-22, RB48-22 AMPC


59

Fire Protection

Exterior Walls - R202, R302,

R202 - Definition of: Exterior Wall

- Above-grade wall
- Defines exterior boundaries of a building.
- Includes:
 - between-floor spandrels, peripheral edges of
 - floors, roof and basement knee walls, dormer walls,
 - gable end walls, gable end roof trusses,
 - walls enclosing a mansard roof and basement walls with an average
 - below-grade wall area < 50% of the total area of that enclosing side.

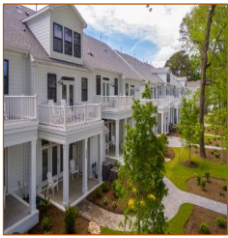


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Exterior Walls – R302.1

FSD

- For FSD, dwellings and townhouses on the **same lot** shall be assumed to have an imaginary line between them.
- FSD and requirements of Section R302.1 do not apply to walls separating townhouse units (party walls).




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Exterior Walls – R302.1 2024 IRC

New Code - FDS

- For the purposes of determining *fire separation distance*, *dwelling*s and *townhouse*s on the *same lot* shall be assumed to have an *imaginary line* between them.
- Where a new *dwelling* or *townhouse* is to be erected on the *same lot* as an existing *dwelling* or *townhouse*, the location of the assumed *imaginary line* with relation to the existing *dwelling* or *townhouse* shall be such that the existing *dwelling* or *townhouse* meets requirements of this section.



RB48 AMPC 61

Townhouse – R302.2 2021 IRC

Common Wall

R302.2.2 Common walls.

Common walls separating *townhouse units* shall be assigned a fire-resistance rating in accordance with Item 1 or 2 and shall be *rated for fire exposure from both sides*. Common walls shall *extend to and be tight against the exterior sheathing of the exterior walls, or the inside face of exterior walls without stud cavities, and the underside of the roof sheathing*. The common wall shared by two *townhouse units* shall be constructed without plumbing or mechanical equipment, ducts or vents, *other than water-filled fire sprinkler piping* in the cavity of the common wall. Electrical installations shall be in accordance with *Chapters 34 through 43*. Penetrations of the membrane of common walls for electrical outlet boxes shall be in accordance with *Section R302.4*.

Code Change No: RB46-39 63

Exterior Walls – R302.1 2024 IRC

New Code - FDS

- Where a *lot line* exists between adjacent *townhouse units*, *fire separation distance* of exterior walls shall be measured to the *lot line*.
- Where a *lot line* does not exist between adjacent *townhouse units*, an *imaginary line* shall be assumed between the adjacent *townhouse units* and *fire separation distance* of exterior walls shall be measured to the *imaginary line*.
- Fire separation distance* and requirements of *Section R302.1* shall not apply to walls separating *townhouse units* that are required by *Section R302.2*.

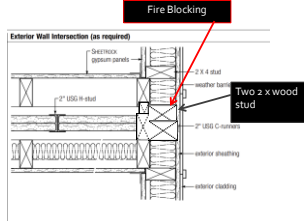
RB48 AMPC 62

Townhouse Common Wall - R302.2 2021 IRC

Common Wall

Exception:

- Common walls separating townhouses can terminate at the inside of exterior walls:
 - With two 2 in. studs as fireblocking



64

Two-Family Dwelling Separation – R302.3 2021 IRC

1-Hour Fire-Resistive Rating

One-hour separation **whether or not** a lot line exists between units

65

Vertically Stack Dwelling Units – R302.3.4 2024 IRC

NEW

Where one dwelling unit in a two-family dwelling is located above the other and an automatic sprinkler system complying with Section P2904 is not provided in both dwelling units, both of the following shall apply:

1. Horizontal and vertical assemblies separating the dwelling units, including an interior stairway serving as the means of egress for the upper dwelling unit, shall be constructed in a manner that limits the transfer of smoke.
2. A notification appliance connected to smoke alarms in the other dwelling unit shall be provided in each dwelling unit

RB63-22 AMPC3

67

Two-Family Dwelling – R302.3

New Code Change

Fire-Resistance Requirements has Changed

Separate from each other in accordance Sections R302.3.1 through Section R302.3.5, regardless of lot line between the two

Dwelling units shall be separated by fire-resistance rated assemblies that are vertical, horizontal, or a combination thereof.

RB61-22 AMPC1

66

Shared Accessory Rooms – R302.3.6 2024 IRC

New Code Change

Shared accessory rooms shall be separated from each individual dwelling unit in accordance with Table R302.3.6.

Openings between the shared accessory room and dwelling unit shall comply with Section R302.3.6.1.

Attachment of gypsum board shall comply with Table R702.3.5.

R302.3 Two-family dwellings

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Dwelling-Shared Accessory Room Separation—Table R302.3.6 2024 IRC

SEPARATION	MATERIAL
From the dwelling units and attic	Not less than 1/2-inch gypsum board or equivalent applied to the accessory room side wall
From habitable rooms above or below the shared accessory room	Not less than 1/2-inch Type X gypsum board or equivalent
Structures supporting floor/ceiling assemblies used for separation required by this section	Not less than 1/2-inch gypsum board or equivalent

R302.3.6.1 Opening protection.
Openings from a shared accessory room or area directly into a room used for sleeping purposes shall not be permitted. Other openings between the shared accessory room or area and dwelling units shall be equipped with solid wood doors not less than 1 3/4" in thickness, solid or honeycomb core steel doors not less than 1 3/4" in thickness, or a fire door assembly with a 20-minute fire-protection rating, equipped with a self-closing or automatic-closing device.

R302.3.6.2 Duct penetration.
Ducts penetrating the walls or ceilings separating the dwelling from the shared accessory room shall be constructed of sheet steel not less than No. 26 gage or other approved material and **shall not have openings into the shared accessory room.**

RB64-22 AMP C1,2 69

Garage Door Between . . . 2021 IRC

□ Door between the garage and residence must be equipped with a self-closing or automatic-closing device..

Self-closing Door Hinges

R302.3.6.1 Shared Accessory Room & R302.5 Btwn Garage & House 71

Dwelling-Shared Accessory Room Separation—Table R302.3.6 2024 IRC

SEPARATION	MATERIAL
From the dwelling units and attic	Not less than 1/2-inch gypsum board or equivalent applied to the accessory room side wall
From habitable rooms above or below the shared accessory room	Not less than 1/2-inch Type X gypsum board or equivalent
Structures supporting floor/ceiling assemblies used for separation required by this section	Not less than 1/2-inch gypsum board or equivalent

R302.3.6.3 Other penetrations.
Penetrations through the walls, ceiling and floor-level separation required in Section R302.3.6 shall be protected as required by Section R302.11, Item 4.

4. At openings around vents, pipes, ducts, cables and wires at ceiling and floor level, with an approved material to resist the free passage of flame and products of combustion. The material filling this annular space shall not be required to meet the ASTM E136 requirements.

RB64-22 AMP C1,2 70

Under the Stairway – R302.7 2018

R302.7 Under-stair protection.
Enclosed accessible space under stairs that is accessed by a door or access panel, shall have walls, under-stair surface and any soffits protected on the enclosed side with 1/2-inch (12.7 mm) gypsum board.

Walls and ceiling under stair shall be sheet rocked if space is usable.

True or False

71



Insulation Flame Spread


2021 IRC



R302.10.1 Insulation.
Insulating materials installed within floor-ceiling assemblies, roof-ceiling assemblies, wall assemblies, crawl spaces and attics shall comply with the requirements of this section. They shall exhibit a flame spread index not to exceed 25 and a smoke-developed index not to exceed 450 where tested in accordance with ASTM E84 or UL 723.

Insulating materials, where tested in accordance with the requirements of this section, shall include facings, where used, such as vapor retarders, vapor permeable membranes and similar coverings.

RB75-22 AS



Foam Plastic R303



2024 IRC

Code Change


R303.1.1 Spray-applied foam plastic.
Single- and multiple-component spray-applied foam plastic insulation shall comply with the provisions of [Section R303](#) and [ICC 1100](#).

R303.1.2 Insulating sheathing.
Foam plastic materials used as insulating sheathing shall comply with the provisions of [Section R303](#) and the material standards in [Table R303.1.2](#).

New Standards for Foam Plastic materials and their application are added

RB127-22 AS 75



Fire Protection of Floors - R302.13

2024 IRC

Addition to Exceptions

5 Floor assemblies that are not required elsewhere in this code to be fire-resistance rated, shall be provided with a $1/2$ " gypsum wallboard, membrane, $5/8$ " wood structural panel membrane, or equivalent on the underside of the floor framing member. Penetrations or openings for ducts, vents, electrical outlets, lighting, devices, luminaires, wires, speakers, drainage, piping and similar openings or penetrations shall be permitted.


Exceptions: 1-4

5 Wood floor assemblies less than 600 sq. ft. within detached accessory structures with no habitable space above them.

This new exception is intended to address small haylofts and other floor systems with a low likelihood of an issue with egress or the need to enter during a fire

Small haylofts or other small/ low/ limited occupancy or risk floor systems should not have to be held to the same standards as a dwelling

RB75-22 AS 74



Foam Plastics - ~~R316-3~~ R303

2021 IRC
2024 IRC

New and Modification Code

R303.3 Surface burning characteristics. new
Unless otherwise allowed in [Section R303.5](#), foam plastic, or foam plastic cores used as a component in manufactured assemblies, used in building construction shall comply with [Section R303.3.1](#) or [R303.3.2](#). Loose-fill-type foam plastic insulation shall be tested as board stock for the flame spread index and smoke-developed index.

Exception: Spray foam plastic insulation more than 4" in thickness shall have a flame spread index of not more than 25 and a smoke-developed index of not more than 450 where tested at a thickness of 4" and at the density intended for use. Such spray foam plastic shall be separated from the interior of a building by $1/2$ -inch gypsum wallboard or by a material that is tested in accordance with and meets the acceptance criteria of both the Temperature Transmission Fire Test and the Integrity Fire Test of NFPA 275.

R303.3.1 Foam plastic insulation 4 inches thick or less. new
Foam plastic insulation installed at 4" in thickness or less shall have a flame spread index of not more than 75 and a smoke-developed index of not more than 450 where tested in the maximum thickness and density intended for use in accordance with ASTM E84 or UL 723.

R303.3.2 Foam plastic insulation more than 4 inches thick. new
Foam plastic insulation installed at more than 4" in thickness shall have a flame spread index of not more than 75 and a smoke-developed index of not more than 450 where tested at a thickness of 4" in accordance with ASTM E84 or UL 723, provided that the end use is approved in accordance with [Section R303.8](#) using the thickness and density intended for use.

Code Change No: R1832-24 76

Alternative test method - R302.9.4 2021 IRC

Code Change No: RB71-19

Original Proposal

Section(s): R302.9.4 (New)

Proponents: Marcelo M Hirschler, GBH International, representing GBH International (mmh@gbhint.com)

2018 International Residential Code

Add new text as follows:

R302.9.4 High density polyethylene (HDPE) and polypropylene (PP). Where high density polyethylene or polypropylene is used as an interior finish material, it shall be tested in accordance with NFPA 286 and comply with the requirements in Section R302.9.4.




Reason: This proposal brings in a key fire safety requirement from the IBC and the IFC. The new section addresses the issue that it is not appropriate to allow testing of high density polyethylene (HDPE) and polypropylene (PP) materials used as interior finish in accordance with ASTM E84 or UL 723, because the test results are misleading. Such materials must be tested to NFPA 286, as shown in the existing section R302.9.4.

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Storm Shelters - R307.2.1 2021 IRC

Findings on Failed Shelter Door

- An engineered design is required for storm shelters.
- ... *Registered design professional* indicating compliance with ICC 500.
- ... *Listed and labeled* to indicate compliance with ICC 500.


This door attached to an above-ground shelter failed during an EF-4 tornado in Arkansas on April 27, resulting in one death.

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Foam Plastic Table R303.1.2

What materials can be used?

	Typical R-value per inch	Inches for R-10	Inches for R-15
Expanded Polystyrene	4.0	2.5	3.75
Extruded Polystyrene	5.0	2.0	3.0
Polyisocyanurate	6.5	1.5	2.3



Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Extruded Polystyrene (XPS) Polyisocyanurate (PIR)

Table R303.1.2

Material Standards for Foam Plastic Insulation Sheathing

Foam Plastic Insulation Sheathing	Material Standard
Expanded Polystyrene (EPS)	ASTM C578
Extruded Polystyrene (XPS)	ASTM C578
Polyisocyanurate	ASTM C1289

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Smoke Alarms R310

R310.1 General.
Smoke alarms shall comply with [NFPA 72-22](#), [Section R310](#) and the [manufacturer's installation instructions](#).

R310.1.1 Listings.
Smoke alarms shall be *listed* and *labeled* in accordance with [UL 217](#). Combination smoke and carbon monoxide alarms shall be *listed* and *labeled* in accordance with [UL 217](#) and [UL 2034](#).

R310.1.2 Installation.
Smoke alarms and combination smoke and carbon monoxide alarms shall be installed in accordance with their *listing* and the [manufacturer's instructions](#).

RB121 AS, RB122 AMPC, RB153 AMPC2,3, RB14 AS
Thomberg Code Services

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Code Modification

Smoke Alarms R310

2024 IRC

R310.3 Location.
Smoke alarms shall be installed in the following locations: 1-5

6. *Within the room to which a sleeping loft is open, in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping loft.*

R310.3.1 Installation near cooking appliances.
Smoke alarms shall be installed *not less than 10'* horizontally from a permanently installed cooking appliance.

Exception: Smoke alarms shall be permitted to be installed not less than 6' horizontally from a permanently installed cooking appliance where necessary to comply with [Section R310.3](#).

Ionization or Photoelectric smoke alarms

RB121 AS, RB122 AMPC, RB153 AMPC2,3, RB14 AS
Thornburg Code Services



Revised

Carbon Monoxide Alarms - R311

2023 IRC

R311.2.2 Alterations, repairs and additions.

Repairs to an existing fuel-fired mechanical system now trigger the retroactive requirements for carbon monoxide alarms.

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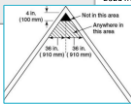
Code Modification

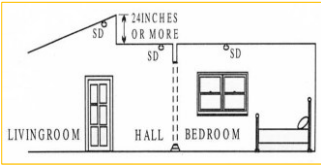
Smoke Alarm Locations

2021 IRC

R310.3 Location.

5. In the hallway and in the room open to the hallway in dwelling units where the ceiling height of a room open to a hallway serving bedrooms exceeds that of the hallway by 24" or more.



82

Code Modification

Minimum Ceiling Height - R313.1

2021 IRC

Habitable space, hallways and portions of basements containing these spaces shall have a **ceiling height 7'**

Exception: #4
Minimum ceiling height reduced to 6 ft. 6 in. under beams spaced at least 36 in. apart.



84

Habitable Attics & Basements in Existing Bldgs – R313.1.2 2024 IRC

Revision

- Where a *habitable attic* or habitable space in a *basement* is created in an existing building, *ceiling height* shall not be less than 6' 8".
- Bathrooms, toilet rooms and laundry rooms shall have a *ceiling height* of not less than 6 feet 4 inches.



RB153 AMPC1,2,3; RB32 AS

Sleeping Lofts Definition 202

New Code Definition

SLEEPING LOFT.

- A space designated for sleeping on an intermediate level or
- Levels between the floor and ceiling of a *story*, open on one or more sides to the room in which the space is located, and in accordance with [Section R315](#).




RB153 AMPC1,2,3; RB32 AS

Sleeping Lofts - R315

New Code

From the appendix 2015 IRC,
To code languages 2024 IRC

- Sleeping Loft Limitations** requirements added for sleeping lofts along with a new definition 202



~~R325.1~~ R314.1 General. Mezzanines -
Exception: *Sleeping lofts in dwelling units and sleeping units* shall be permitted to comply with Section 315, subject to the limitations in Section R315.2.


RB153 AMPC1,2,3; RB32 AS

Sleeping Lofts Minimums R315

New Code

Minimum Requirements for a sleeping loft:

- Area < 70 ft²
- Ceiling height for < ½ of floor area shall not exceed 7 ft. tall
- Ceiling height min. 3' tall from finish floor
- Floor area limited to areas with 3 ft. tall ceiling height
- Permanent means of egress
- Floor below min. 7 ft ceiling height



RB153 AMPC1,2,3; RB32 AS

Thornburg Code Services


Sleeping Lofts – Exceptions R315

New Code: Tiny/Small Loft Dims.

□ **R315.1** . . . Such *sleeping lofts shall not* contribute to the number of *stories* as regulated by this code.

Exceptions: *Sleeping lofts need not* comply with Section R315 where they meet any of the following conditions:

1. The *sleeping loft* has a *depth* of less than 3 ft.
2. The *sleeping loft* has a *floor area* of < 35 sq. ft.
3. The *sleeping loft* is *not provided* with a permanent means of egress.



RB153AMPC1,2,3; RB32 AS

Habitable Attics – R316

2021 IRC
2024 IRC

R316.1 General. Habitable attics shall comply with Sections R316.2 and R316.3.

R316.2 Minimum dimensions. A habitable attic shall have a floor area in accordance with Section R312 and a ceiling height in accordance with Section R313.

R316.3 Story above grade plane. A habitable attic shall be considered a story above grade plane.

Exceptions: A habitable attic shall not be considered to be a story above grade plane provided that the habitable attic meets all the following:

1. The aggregate area of the habitable attic is either of the following:
 - 1.1. Not greater than one-third of the floor area of the story below.
 - 1.2. Not greater than one-half of the floor area of the story below where the habitable attic is located within a dwelling unit equipped with an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section P2904.
2. The occupiable space is enclosed by the roof assembly above, knee wall, if applicable, on the sides and the floor-ceiling assembly below.
3. The floor of the habitable attic does not extend beyond the exterior walls of the story below.
4. Where a habitable attic is located above a third story, an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section P2904 shall be installed in the habitable attic and remaining portion of the townhouse unit or dwelling unit or units located beneath the habitable attic.

R316.4 Means of egress. The means of egress for habitable attics shall comply with the applicable provisions of Section R310.

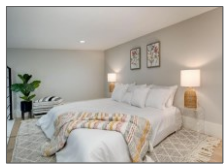
Code Change No. RB152-19 - New

Sleeping Lofts Minimums R315

New Code

Minimum Requirements for a sleeping loft:

- **Area** < 70 ft²
- **Ceiling height** for < 1/2 of floor area shall not exceed 7 ft. tall
- **Ceiling height** min. 3' tall from finish floor
- **Floor area** limited to areas with 3 ft. tall ceiling height
- **Floor** below min. 7 ft ceiling height
- **Permanent means of egress**

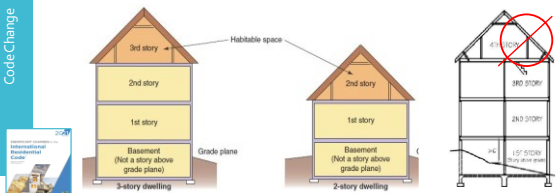


RB153AMPC1,2,3; RB32 AS

Habitable Attics – R316

2021 IRC

□ Habitable space above 2nd story or 1st story meets definition of story – no additional requirements



Code Change

Concerns

Story above grade plane

2021 IRC

Why this matters:

- In this example—the “attic” room is a story.
- The load bearing walls of the first floor are required to be 2x6 @ 16" o.c. (per Table R602.3(5))

Old Slide

The Fire group are concerned to how tall the dwelling is from grade. I have all ways been concerned to what is holding up the structure.

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New Additions to the Code

Garage R317

- R317.7 Automotive Lifts**
Where provided, automotive lifts shall be listed and labeled in accordance with ANSI/ALI ALCVT.
- R317.7.1 Installation**
Automotive lifts shall be installed in accordance with ANSI/ALI ALCVT, the listing and the lift manufacturer's installation instructions.
- Automotive lifts shall not be installed within the habitable space of a dwelling unit.

Chapter 44, Referenced Standards

ALI Automotive Lift Institute, Inc.
PO Box 85
Cortlandt NY 13045
Standard for Automotive Lifts—Safety Requirements for Construction, Testing and Validation (ANSI) • R317.7

RB87 AMPC, RB88 AS

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New Additions to the Code

Garage R317

EV Home Charging

R317.6 - Electric vehicle charging systems.

- Where provided, electric vehicle charging systems shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 70, (NEC)
- Electric vehicle charging system equipment shall be listed and labeled in accordance with UL 2202.
- Electric vehicle supply equipment shall be listed and labeled in accordance with UL 2594.
 - (NY) R317.6.1 Disconnecting means... equipped with disconnecting means in accordance with Section 611 of the FCNYS.

RB87 AMPC, RB88 AS

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Code Modification

Landings & Stairways R318

- R318.7.6 Landings for Stairways**
There shall be a floor or landing at the top and bottom of each flight of stairs. . . .


Exceptions: (1 – 4)

1. The top landing of an interior stairway, including those in an enclosed garage, shall be permitted to be on the other side of a door located at the top of the stairway, provided that the door does not swing over the stairs.

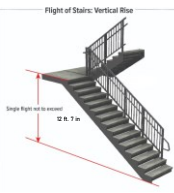
R107 AS, RB108 AS, RB100 AMPC

Thornburg Code Services
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Means of Egress - R311.7.3 (R318.7.3) 2018




A flight of stairs shall not have a vertical riser larger than 12 ft. 7 inches between floor levels or landings.



Flight of Stairs: Vertical Rise
Single Riser not to exceed 12 ft. 7 in.

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Landings & Stairways R318



R318.7.9 Stairways in Existing Buildings.

Alterations to existing stairs shall not be required to comply with the requirements of this code where the existing space and construction does not allow a reduction in pitch or slope.

Code Modification

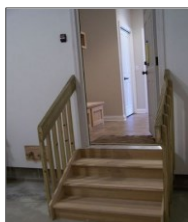
R107 AS, RB108 AS, RB100 AMPC

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Landings & Stairways R318

R318.7.6 Landings for Stairways
Exceptions: (1-4)

- At an enclosed garage, the top landing at the stair shall be permitted to be not more than 7½" below the top of the threshold.
- At exterior doors, a top landing is not required for an exterior stairway of not more than two risers, provided that the door does not swing over the stairway.
- Exterior stairways to grade with three or fewer risers serving a deck, porch or patio shall have a bottom landing width of not less than 20", provided that the stairway is not the required access to grade serving the required egress door.



Code Modification

R107 AS, RB108 AS, RB100 AMPC

Thornburg Code Services


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Ramps R318 2021 IRC 2024 IRC

R318.8.3 Handrails required
Handrails shall be provided on not less than one side of ramps exceeding a slope of 1 unit vertical in 12 units horizontal and shall comply with Section R320.

R320.3 Handrail projection
Handrails shall not project more than 4 1/2" on either side of the stairway or ramp.

R320.5 Continuity
Handrails where required for ramps shall be continuous for the full length of the ramp.



Modification of Code

R107 AS, RB108 AS, RB100 AMPC, RB110-22

100

Emergency Escape and Rescue – R319.1 2021 IRC
2024 IRC

Exception: #4

❑ A yard shall not be required to open directly into a *public way* where the yard opens to an unobstructed path from the yard to the *public way*. Such path shall have a width of not less than 36".

Stockade Fence — Property Line — — — — — Minimum 36" Yard or Court to Public Way — — — — —

Code Change No: RB86-20

Emergency Escape and Rescue Openings – R319.2.4 2021 IRC

• 36 in. height
• 36 in. width

Code Clarification

Emergency Escape and Rescue Openings – R319.2.4 2021 IRC
2024 IRC

❑ Emergency escape openings under decks, porches and cantilevers require a path not less than 36 in. in height and 36 in. in width & 36 inches in width to a yard or court.

❑ Dimensions have been clarified (placed in separate sections):

- Minimum opening area
- Minimum opening dimensions
- Maximum sill height above floor

Code Clarification

Replacement windows for EERO - R319.5 2018

R319.2-5 (R319.5)

Replacement for emergency escape and rescue openings in stilled in buildings meeting the scope of this code shall be exempt from Sections R319.2 and R319.4.4, provided that the replacement window meets the following conditions:

1. The replacement window is the manufacturer's largest standard size window that will fit within the existing frame or existing rough opening. The replacement window shall be permitted to be of the same operating style as the existing window or a style that provides for an equal or greater window opening area than the existing window.
2. The replacement window is not part of a change of occupancy.

Emergency Escape and Rescue Opening (EERO)

Bars, Grills, Covers & Screens – R310.4 (R319.4.4) 2018



405

Handrails R320

Merge & Changed

- Handrail height and continuity are placed in one single section on handrails.
- Handrail height and continuity are merged into one single Section R320.5
- Handrail returns shall not form a gap $>1/4"$ from the adjacent wall

Section R320 Handrails

- R320.1 General.
- R320.2 Height.
- R320.3 Handrail Projection.
- R320.4 Handrail Clearance.
- R320.5 Continuity.
- R320.6 Grip Size.
- R320.7 Exterior Plastic Composite Handrails.

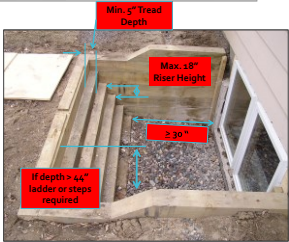
RB110 AS, RB111 AM, RB112 AM, RB114 AM

407

EERO Area Wells - R319.4, R319.4.2.2 2021 IRC

Code Clarification

- Window wells and area wells merged into area wells.
- Dimensions are given for steps:
 - 5 in. tread
 - 18 in. rise
 - 12 in. width



406


Handrail Projection R311.7-8.2 (R320.3) 2018

Handrail

R311.7.8.2 Continuity- Handrail projection.
Handrails for stairways shall be continuous for the full length of the flight, from a point directly above the top riser not project more than 4 1/2 inches (114 mm), on either side of the flight to a point directly above the lowest riser stairway.

Exceptions:

- Handrails shall be permitted to be interrupted by a newel post at the turn.
- The use of a volute, turnout, starting easing or starting newel shall be allowed over the lowest tread. Where nosings of landings, floors or passing flights project into the stairway reducing the clearance at passing handrails, handrails shall project not more than 6 1/2 inches (165 mm) into the stairway, provided that the stair width and handrail clearance are not reduced to less than that required.



408

Change - Modification

Guard Height - R312.1.2 (R321.1.1)

2018

R312.1.1 R321.1.1 Where required.

Guards shall be provided for those portions of open-sided walking surfaces, including....

Handrail
Grade
Elevation
Guard
≥36 in.
≤30 in.
36 in.

409

Care Facility Accessibility R322.3

Linking IRC to IBC

- **R322.1 Dwelling units or sleeping units**
 - ≥4 dwelling units (townhouse) or sleeping units in a single structure
 - Exception for owner-occupied transient lodging
- **R322.2 Live/work units**
 - Non-residential portion of the live/work unit
- **R322.3 Care facilities**
 - Where permitted
 - May use IRC for design
 - Must be accessible per Chapter 11 of the IBC in the care facility portion of the building

511

Linking IRC to IBC

Accessibility R322

- **R322.3 Care Facilities**

Where care facilities are permitted to be constructed in accordance with [Section R101.2](#), the portions of the dwelling used to operate a business providing care shall be accessible in accordance with [Chapter 11](#) of the *International Building Code*.

RB134-22

510

Elevators & Platform Lifts - R323


Additions and Change

- **R323.1.1 Private Residence Elevators**
The design, construction and installation of private residence elevators installed within a residential unit or providing access to one individual dwelling unit shall conform to [ASME A17.1/CSA B44](#),...
- **R323.1.1.1 Hoistway Enclosures.**
Hoistway enclosures for private residence elevators shall comply with [ASME A17.1/CSA B44](#),...
- **R323.1.1.2 Hoist-way Opening Protection.**
Hoist-way landing doors for private residence elevators shall comply with [ASME A17.1/CSA B44](#),...

RB 135 AS, RB32 AS

513

Hazardous Locations



Safety Glazing (R324.4.4.1)

Section: R308.4.4.1 (New)

Proponent: Lee Kranz, City of Bellevue, WA, representing Washington Association of Building Officials Technical Code Development Committee (lkranz@bellevuewa.gov)

Add new text as follows:

R308.4.4.1 Structural glass baluster panels. Guards with structural glass baluster panels shall be installed with an attached top rail or handrail. The top rail or handrail shall be supported by a minimum of three glass baluster panels, or shall be otherwise supported to remain in place should one glass baluster panel fail.

Exception: An attached top rail or handrail is not required where the glass baluster panels are laminated glass with two or more glass plies of equal thickness and of the same glass type.

Reason: This proposal will clarify and align the IRC and IBC requirements for glass panels that are used as a structural component in a guard. Imperfections in glass can cause it to fail at loads that are well below its nominal resistance value. We believe the intent of the IRC requirements is to have something in top rail or a handrail at stairs to provide some additional fall protection for a person leaning on the guard, should a glass panel fail. Having a handrail attached to at least 3 panels also provides some backup support in a panel fails -- the attachment to something like a handrail is viewed as a fail. However, there is an exception that allows glass only guards without an attached top rail or handrail on the outside of a building. The laminated glass provides some backup against total panel failure, but note that the entire glass baluster still has to be designed to be able to support the full loads for guards, as specified in Table R301.5, including using a factor of safety of 4 found in footnote 7.

We believe the IRC should also have these critical safety requirements, which it currently does not.

The proposed code here is consistent with, but not identical to the IBC test Section 4077.1.2). However, we believe this more clearly states the requirements, and have submitted a parallel amendment for the IBC.


Cost Impact: Will not increase the cost of construction.

This change creates consistency with the IBC for glass guards only and allows for more safety and flexibility in design. There should be no increase in the cost.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BS-Qt5dR4dU>




2018
115

Code Changes and Additions



Hazardous Locations

2018






This is a guard application with no top rail and an attached handrail. Handrail is not required by code. It has been included in an attempt to meet code by including an attached "handrail" in lieu of an attached "guard."

This problem begins with the interpretation of the phrase: **glass balusters shall not be installed without an attached handrail or guard.** Many installers, designers and inspectors are taking this sentence to indicate that as long as a handrail is in place, the code has been met.

2018
115

Safety Glazing



Minimum Uniformly Distributed Live Loads (lbs per Sq Ft) - Table R301.5

Guards and handrails ^d	200 ^b
Guard in-fill components ^f	50 ^h

Q1: Guard in-fill components (all those except the handrail), balusters and panel fillers shall be designed to withstand a horizontally applied normal load of 50 lbs. on an area equal to 1 sq. ft. This load need not be assumed to act concurrently with any other live load requirement.


Q2: Glazing used in handrail assemblies and guards shall be designed with a safety factor of 4. The safety factor shall be applied to each of the concentrated loads applied to the top of the rail, and to the load on the in-fill components...

Q3 Interpretation: Handrails and guards. Handrail assemblies and guards shall be designed to resist a load of 50 lbs. plf applied in any direction at the top and to transfer this load through the supports to the structure.

This states that the load must be met by the top of the guard 36". Glass balusters will not be able to meet the 800 lbs. (4 X 200 lbs.) concentrated load without an attached guard rail. And in the event of one panel's failure, a railing must remain at the top of the guard that meets the load requirement. An attached handrail will not meet this requirement.

2018
116

Code Changes and Additions



Light, Ventilation and Heating R325

Q R325.1.1 Natural light.

Habitable rooms shall have an aggregate area of glazed openings not less than 8 percent of the floor area of such rooms. Required glazed openings shall face directly onto a street, alley or public way, or a yard or court located on the same lot as the building.

Exceptions:

1. Required glazed openings shall be permitted to face into a roofed porch, deck or patio adjacent to a street, alley, public way, yard or court, where there the longer side of the roofed area is not less than 65 percent unobstructed and the ceiling height is not less than 7'.
2. Required glazed openings shall be permitted to face into a sunroom adjacent to a street, alley, public way, yard or court.
3. Glazed openings are not required where artificial light is provided that is capable of producing an average illumination of 6 footcandles (65 lux) over the area of the room at a height of 30" above the floor level.
4. Eave projections shall not be considered as obstructing the clear open space of a yard or court.

RB32-22, RB76-22
116

Light, Ventilation and Heating R325

R325.1.2 Natural ventilation

Habitable rooms shall have an aggregate area openable to the outdoors not less than 4 percent of the floor area of such rooms. Openings shall be through windows, skylights, doors, louvers or other approved openings to the outdoor air. Such openings shall be provided with ready access or shall otherwise be readily controllable by the building occupants.

Exceptions:

1. Natural ventilation shall not be required in habitable rooms ~~at~~ **in** kitchens where a whole-house mechanical ventilation system or a mechanical ventilation system capable of producing 0.35 air changes per hour in the habitable rooms is installed in accordance with [Section M505.5](#).
2. Natural ventilation ~~shall not be required~~ in kitchens where a local exhaust system is installed in accordance with [Section M505.5](#).
3. Required ventilation openings shall be permitted to open into a thermally isolated sunroom or roofed porch, deck, or patio where not less than 40 percent of the roofed area perimeter is open to the outdoor air.
4. Required ventilation openings shall be permitted to open into a thermally isolated sunroom provided there is an openable area between the adjoining room and the sunroom of not less than one-tenth of the floor area of the interior room and not less than 20 square feet. The minimum openable area of the sunroom to outdoor air shall be based on the total floor area of the adjoining room and the sunroom.

RB76-22 447

Stairway Lighting Outlet Control – R303.7.1 R325.6 & E3903.3.1 2018

Light Activation



Where lighting outlets are installed in interior stairways, there shall be a wall switch at each floor level to control the lighting outlet where the stairway has six or more risers. The illumination of exterior stairways shall be controlled from inside the dwelling unit.

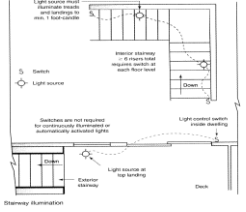
E3903.3.1 . . . at each landing level that includes a stairway entry to control the lighting outlets where the stairway between floor levels has six or more risers

Exception: A switch is not required where remote, central or automatic control of lighting is provided.

Stairway Illumination - R303.7, R303.8 (R325.7, R325.8) 2018

CHANGE, CLARIFICATION

Interior and exterior stairway illumination provisions have been placed in separate sections. Conflicting language has been removed to clarify the requirements.




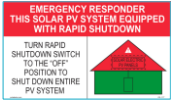
Stairway Illumination

448

BIPV Systems R329.6.4

Code Change

Building-integrated photovoltaic (BIPV) systems should be marked from below to identify hazardous areas for emergency responders

RB149-22 Thornburg Code Services 449

Energy Storage System – Location R330.4

Addition to the Code

- ESS shall be installed only in the following locations:
 1. Detached garages and detached accessory structures.
 2. Attached garages separated from the dwelling unit living space in accordance with Section R302.6.
 3. Outdoors or on the exterior side of exterior walls located not less than 3' from doors and windows directly entering the dwelling unit, except where smaller separation distances are permitted by the UL 9540 listing and manufacturer's installation instructions.
 4. Enclosed utility closets, basements, storage or utility spaces within dwelling units with finished or noncombustible walls and ceilings. Walls and ceilings of unfinished wood-framed construction shall be provided with not less than $\frac{1}{2}$ "-Type X gypsum wallboard. Openings into the dwelling shall be equipped with solid wood doors not less than $\frac{1}{8}$ " in thickness, solid or honeycomb-core steel doors not less than $\frac{1}{8}$ " in thickness, or doors with a 20-minute fire protection rating. Doors shall be self-latching and equipped with a self-closing or an automatic-closing device. Penetrations through the required gypsum wallboard into the dwelling shall be protected as required by Section R302.11, Item 4.
- ESS shall not be installed in sleeping rooms, or closets or spaces opening directly into sleeping rooms.

RB155 AS, RB157 AM

ESS Vehicle Impact Protection - Garage R330.8.3

New Code

Stationary fuel cell power systems = Batteries

Figure R330.8.1

RB155 AS, RB157 AM

Energy Storage System - Garage R330.8.1

New Code

- **R330.8 Protection from impact.** ESS installed in a location subject to vehicle damage shall be protected in accordance with Section R330.8.1 or R330.8.2.
- Where an ESS is installed in the normal driving path of vehicle travel within a garage, impact protection complying with Section R330.8.3 shall be provided. The normal driving path is a space between the garage vehicle opening and the interior face of the back wall to a height of 48" above the finished floor. The width of the normal driving path shall be equal to the width of the garage door opening. Impact protection shall also be provided for an ESS installed at either of the following locations (see Figure R330.8.1):
 1. On the interior face of the back wall and located within 36" to the left or to the right of the normal driving path.
 2. On the interior face of a side wall and located within 24" from the back wall and 36" of the normal driving path.

Exception: Where the clear height of the vehicle garage opening is 7' - 6" or less, ESS installed not less than 36" above finished floor are not subject to vehicle impact protection requirements.

RB155 AS, RB157 AM

ESS Vehicle Impact Protection - Garage R330.8.3

New Code

□ **R330.8.3 Impact protection options.** ESS protection shall comply with one of the following:


1. Bollards constructed in accordance with one of the following:
 - 1.1. Minimum 48" in length X 3" in dia. Sch. 80 steel pipe . . .
 - 1.2. Minimum 36" in height X 3" in dia. Schedule 80 steel pipe fully welded to a steel plate not less than 8" in length by $\frac{1}{4}$ " in thickness and bolted . . .
 - 1.3. Premanufactured steel pipe bollards filled with concrete and anchored in . . .
2. Wheel barriers constructed in accordance with one of the following:
 - 2.1. Concrete or polymer 4" in height by 5" in width by 70" in length, anchored to . . .
 - 2.2. Premanufactured wheel barriers shall be anchored in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions. . .
3. An approved method designed to resist an impact of 2,000 lbs. psf in the direction of travel at 24" above grade.

Incomplete code sections

RB155 AS, RB157 AM

Foundation Soil Test R401.4 2024 IRC

New Requirement



Where the seismic design category in accordance with Section R301.2.2.1 is C or greater and where soil testing is performed, the geotechnical report shall include the determination of the site class and the short-period spectral response acceleration, S_{ps} , in accordance with Section 1613 of the International Building Code.

The seismic design category shall be assigned in accordance with Table R301.2.2.3.1.

RB164-22 AM 125

Footing Width and Thickness excerpt - Table R403.1(1) 2021 IRC

Example Table

Table Modified

Ground Snow Load or Roof Live Load	Story and Type of Structure with Light Frame	Load Bearing Value of Soil (psf)					
		1500	2000	2500	3000	3500	4000
20 psf Roof Live Load or 25 psf Ground Snow Load	1 story - slab on grade	12x6	12x6	12x6	12x6	12x6	12x6
	1 story - with crawl space	12x6	12x6	12x6	12x6	12x6	12x6
	1 story - plus basement	16x6	16x6	12x6	12x6	12x6	12x6
	2 story - slab on grade	12x6	12x6	12x6	12x6	12x6	12x6
	2 story - with crawl space	12x6	12x6	12x6	12x6	12x6	12x6
	2 story - plus basement	16x6	16x6	12x6	12x6	12x6	12x6
30 psf	1 story - slab on grade	12x6	12x6	12x6	12x6	12x6	12x6
	1 story - with crawl space	12x6	12x6	12x6	12x6	12x6	12x6
	1 story - plus basement	16x6	16x6	12x6	12x6	12x6	12x6
	2 story - slab on grade	12x6	12x6	12x6	12x6	12x6	12x6
	2 story - with crawl space	16x6	16x6	12x6	12x6	12x6	12x6
	2 story - plus basement	16x6	16x6	12x6	12x6	12x6	12x6

128

Foundation Soil Properties Table R401.4.1(2) 2024 IRC

Example Table

Table Modified w/ USDA

SOIL GROUP	UNIFIED SOIL CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM SYMBOL	SOIL DESCRIPTION	USDA TEXTURAL CLASSIFICATION	DRAINAGE CHARACTERISTICS	EXPANSION POTENTIAL	VOLUME CHANGE POTENTIAL
Group I	GW	Well graded gravels, gravel sand mixtures, little or no fines	NA	Good	Low	Low
	GP	Poorly graded gravels in gravel sand mixtures, little or no fines	NA	Good	Low	Low
	SW	Well graded sands, gravelly sands, little or no fines	NA	Good	Low	Low
	SP	Poorly graded sands or gravelly sands, little or no fines	SM	Good	Low	Low
	GM	Silty gravels, gravel sand-silt mixtures	NA	Good	Medium	Low
Group II	SM	Silty sand, sand-silt mixtures	Loamy Sand, Sandy Loam	Good	Medium	Low
	GC	Clayey gravels, gravel sand-clay mixtures	NA	Medium	Medium	Low
	SC	Clayey sands, sand-clay mixture	Sandy Clay, Loam, Silty Clay	Medium	Medium	Low

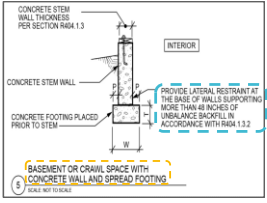
RB165-22 126

Foundation Lateral Support R403 2024 IRC

Addition to Figure R403.1(1) #5

Figure R403.1(1) Plain Concrete Footings with Masonry and Concrete Stem Walls in Seismic Design Categories A, B & C-1, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Reason: All basement walls tables assumed the wall is laterally supported at the top and bottom. See foot notes in all concrete wall tables. Footnote g, states "Where walls will retain 4 feet or more of unbalanced backfill, they shall be laterally supported at the top and bottom before backfilling." R403.1.1 Minimum size for footing reference Figure R403.1(1). Figure R403.1(1) does not show any connection requirements. This proposal gives options for footing to wall connections in Figure R403.1(1) by adding a pointer states "Provide lateral restraint at the base of walls supporting more than 48 inches of walls supporting more than 48 inches of unbalanced backfill in accordance with R404.1.3.2". This lateral restraint can be provided by a keyway, footing dowels, or by a slab-on-ground poured against the base of the wall.



RB167-22 AS 129

Crushed Stone Footings for Cast-in-Place Concrete Foundations - R403.5 2024 IRC

New Code Language

Table R403.4 Minimum Cast-in-Place Concrete Foundation Wall Dimensions, Reinforcement, and Maximum Braced Wall Line Spacing

WIND EXPOSURE CATEGORY	ULTIMATE DESIGN WIND SPEED (MPH)	MIN. STEM WALL WIDTH (IN.)	MIN. STEM WALL HEIGHT (IN.)	MIN. HORIZONTAL REBAR	MAX. BRACED WALL LINE SPACING (FT.)
B	<140	6	12	(2) - #4	28
C and D	<140	8	18	(3) - #4	25

RB166-22 136

Floor Framing Supporting Guards 2024 IRC
IRC: R502.11, R502.11.1, R502.11.2, R502.11.3

Approved NEW Code for 2024 International Residential Code

Proponents: David Cooper, representing Stairbuilders and Manufacturers Association (coderep@stairways.org); Erik Farrington, representing myself (ewfarrington@sgh.com); Renda Barr, representing Stairbuilders and Manufacturers Association (rbarr@srg-ventures.com); Robert Aulicky, representing Stairbuilders & Manufacturers Association (acitzen@reagan.com); Marvin Stizyzewski, representing Truss Engineering Company (marvins@mii.com); Thomas Zuzik Jr, representing NOMMA (coderep@trailingcodes.com); Daniel O'Brien, representing Universal Building Systems, Inc. (dano@stairfasteners.com) requests As Modified by Public Comment


<https://stairways.org/guard-calculations>
<https://sma-new.s3.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/Torsion-Member-Calculations.pdf>
<https://sma-new.s3.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/Rotation-Calculations.pdf>
<https://sma-new.s3.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/Floor-Edge-Bracing-Details-updated-2022-06.pdf>

RB173-22 AMPC 135

Unvented Crawl Space - R408.3 2018 IRC
2021 IRC

New Code Language

2.4. Dehumidification sized to provide 70 pints of moisture removal per day for every 1,000 square feet of crawl space floor area.



2.4. Dehumidification sized to provide 70 pints (33.8 liters) of moisture removal per day for every 1,000 square feet (93 m²) of crawl space floor area in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.

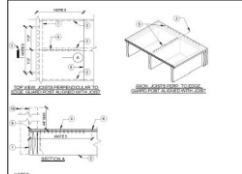
Reason: Objective: Address dehumidifier sizing.
 Rating standards for moisture removal per day are changing (DOE) and moisture performance curves differ for different installations and entering air conditions from manufacturer to manufacturer.
 Additionally, requirements may vary from climate to climate. Manufacturers update their sizing charts on a regular basis to take these factors into account.

Code Change No: RB127-19 135

Floor Framing Support for Guards - R502.11 2024 IRC

New Code Language

- R502.11 Floor Framing Supporting Guards
- R502.11.1 Conventional Edge Framing
- R502.11.2 Timber Edge Framing
- R502.11.3 Roll Bracing



Engineering Calculations supporting this proposal can be found at this link: <https://stairways.org/guard-calculations>

RB173-22 AMPC 137

Floor Framing Support for Guards - R502.11 2024 IRC

Supporting Guard Post

Details for bracing a floor when attaching a guard:

- Blocking for joists perpendicular to the floor edge
- Blocking for joists parallel to the floor edge
- Blocking added between floor joists

NOTE 5

1. Edge Beam (min. 3" net width min. 9'14" height).

2. Center (top or side-mounted guard post with 4" max. height).

3. Typical joist with min. 9'14" height.

4. Full depth blocking with min. 9'14" height.

5. Floor sheathing to be continuous for a min of 2'-0" from edge. Typ.

6. Joint in floor sheathing.

7. 6" x 6" solid common (3'6" x 0.56") boards, staggered, Typ.

8. 6" x 6" solid common (3'6" x 0.56") boards, staggered, Typ.

9. 12" x 12" solid common (3'6" x 0.56") joists between floor sheathing and edge beam, joist of blocking, Typ.

10. Top or side-mounted guard post.

RB173-22 AMPC 138

Floor Framing Support for Guards - R502.11 2024 IRC

Supporting Guard Post

Where a roll brace is not aligned with each guard post, the framing at the edge of the floor

NOTE 5

1. Edge Beam (min. 3" net width min. 9'14" height).

2. Center (top or side-mounted guard post with 4" max. height).

3. Typical joist with min. 9'14" height.

4. Full depth blocking with min. 9'14" height.

5. Floor sheathing to be continuous for a min of 2'-0" from edge. Typ.

6. Joint in floor sheathing.

7. 6" x 6" solid common (3'6" x 0.56") boards, staggered, Typ.

8. 6" x 6" solid common (3'6" x 0.56") boards, staggered, Typ.

9. 12" x 12" solid common (3'6" x 0.56") joists between floor sheathing and edge beam, joist of blocking, Typ.

10. Top or side-mounted guard post.

RB173-22 AMPC 140

Floor Framing Support for Guards - R502.11 2024 IRC

Supporting Guard Post

... brace shall be a joist or blocking matching the depth of the edge member and extending perpendicular to the edge ...

NOTE 5

1. Edge Beam (min. 3" net width min. 9'14" height).

2. Center (top or side-mounted guard post with 4" max. height).

3. Typical joist with min. 9'14" height.

4. Full depth blocking with min. 9'14" height.

5. Floor sheathing to be continuous for a min of 2'-0" from edge. Typ.

6. Joint in floor sheathing.

7. 6" x 6" solid common (3'6" x 0.56") boards, staggered, Typ.

8. 6" x 6" solid common (3'6" x 0.56") boards, staggered, Typ.

9. 12" x 12" solid common (3'6" x 0.56") joists between floor sheathing and edge beam, joist of blocking, Typ.

10. Top or side-mounted guard post.

RB173-22 AMPC 139

Floor Framing Support for Guards - R502.11 2024 IRC

Supporting Guard Post

Roll bracing for joists parallel to the floor edge

NOTE 5

1. Edge Beam (min. 3" net width min. 9'14" height).

2. Center (top or side-mounted guard post with 4" max. height).

3. Typical joist with min. 9'14" height.

4. Full depth blocking with min. 9'14" height.

5. Floor sheathing to be continuous for a min of 2'-0" from edge. Typ.

6. Joint in floor sheathing.

7. 6" x 6" solid common (3'6" x 0.56") boards, staggered, Typ.

8. 6" x 6" solid common (3'6" x 0.56") boards, staggered, Typ.

9. 12" x 12" solid common (3'6" x 0.56") joists between floor sheathing and edge beam, joist of blocking, Typ.



10. Top or side-mounted guard post.

RB173-22 AMPC 141

Post-Tensioned Slab-on-Ground Floors – R506.2 2024 IRC

New Code

- Added referenced standard for post-tensioned slabs on ground
- Post-tensioned concrete slab-on-ground floors placed on expansive or stable soils shall be designed in accordance with [PTI DC30.5](#).
- PTI DC 30.5-19** *Standard Requirements for Design and Analysis of Shallow Concrete Foundations on Expansive and Stable Soils*:
 - Lightly reinforced on stable soil
 - Reinforced and stiffened on expansive soil
 - Uniform (thicker) slab on expansive soil





RB174-22 AS 143

Deck Loads - R507.1 2021 IRC

Clarification-Whichever

- Decks shall be designed for the *live load* required in [Section R301.5](#) or the ground snow load indicated in [Table R301.2](#), whichever is greater.




RB184-19 144

Vapor Retarder - R506.3.3 2024 IRC

Code Change

- A minimum 6 mil polyethylene or approved vapor retarder with joints lapped not less than 6" shall be placed between the concrete floor slab and the base course or the prepared subgrade where a base course does not exist.




RB175-22 AS 143

Fasteners and Connectors – R507.2.3 2024 IRC

Code Change

- Metal fasteners and connectors used for all decks shall be in accordance with [Section R304.3](#) and [Table R507.2.3](#).
- Holes for through bolts shall be drilled to a diameter of $\frac{1}{4}$ inch to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch larger than the bolt diameter.
- Connectors shall be installed in accordance with the manufacture's approved instructions.



Sawn lumber for joists, beams and posts shall be No. 2 or better [R507.2.1](#)

RB177-23
RB178-22 AMPC2 145


Deck Footings - R507.3 2021 IRC

Modification

R507.3 - Decks shall be supported on concrete footings or other approved structural systems designed to accommodate all loads in accordance with Section R301. Deck footings shall be sized to carry the imposed loads from the deck structure to the ground as shown in Figure R507.3.

Exceptions:

1. Footings shall not be required for free-standing decks consisting of joists directly supported on grade over their entire length.
2. Footings shall not be required for free-standing decks that meet all of the following criteria:
 - 2.1. The joists bear directly on precast concrete pier blocks at grade without support by beams or posts.
 - 2.2. The area of the deck does not exceed 200 sq ft.
 - 2.3. The walking surface is not more than 20" above grade at any point within 36" measured horizontally from the edge.




Code Change No: RB187-19 145

Minimum Depth - R507.3.2 2021 IRC

New & Modification

Deck footings shall be placed not less than 12" below the undisturbed ground surface.



R507.3.3 Frost protection.

Where decks are attached to a frost-protected structure, deck footings shall be protected from frost by one or more of the following methods:

1. Extending below the frost line specified in Table R301.2.
2. Erecting on solid rock.
3. Other approved methods of frost protection.

Code Change No: RB187-19 New 148

Min. Footing Size for Decks - Table R507.3.1 2021 IRC

Modification

TABLE R507.3.1 MINIMUM FOOTING SIZE FOR DECKS

LIVE OR GROUND SNOW LOAD ^a (psf)	TRIBUTARY AREA ^b (ft ²)	LOAD-BEARING VALUE OF SOIL ^{c,1,2} (psf)								
		1,000			2,000			≥ 3,000		
		Side of a square footing (inches)	Diameter of a round footing (inches)	Plain concrete thickness (inches)	Side of a square footing (inches)	Diameter of a round footing (inches)	Plain concrete thickness (inches)	Side of a square footing (inches)	Diameter of a round footing (inches)	Plain concrete thickness (inches)
40	5	7	8	6	7	8	6	7	8	6
	20	10	12	6	9	9	6	7	8	6
	40	14	16	6	12	14	6	10	12	6
	60	17	19	6	15	17	6	12	14	6
	80	20	22	7	17	19	6	14	16	6
	100	22	25	8	19	21	6	15	17	6
140	120	24	27	9	21	23	7	17	19	6
	140	26	29	10	22	25	8	18	21	6
	160	28	31	11	24	27	9	20	22	7

Code Change No: RB187-19 147

Deck Posts - R507.4 2021 IRC

Modification

R507.4 Deck posts. For single-level **wood-framed** decks with beams sized in accordance with Table R507.5, **wood** deck post size shall be in accordance with Table R507.4.

□ The deck post height table is expanded by adding the tributary area supported by a post and the wood species for determination of maximum post height. **Do forget the Footnotes a - h**

LOAD ^a (psf)	POST SPECIES ^b	POST SIZE ^c	TRIBUTARY AREA (ft ²) ^{d,1}							
			20	40	60	80	100	120	140	160
40 live load	Southern pine	4 x 4	14.0	13.8	11.0	9.5	8.4	7.5	6.9	6.2
		4 x 6	14.0	14.0	10.11	10.0	9.8	8.10	8.2	
		6 x 6	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	
		8 x 8	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	
		10 x 10	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	
	Framed joist	4 x 4	14.0	13.6	10.10	9.3	8.0	7.0	6.2	5.3
		4 x 6	14.0	14.0	10.10	10.0	9.5	8.2	7.0	
		6 x 6	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	
		8 x 8	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	
		10 x 10	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	
Western cedar ²	4 x 4	14.0	13.2	10.3	9.1	8.0	7.0	6.0	5.0	
	4 x 6	14.0	14.0	13.6	11.4	9.9	8.4	6.9	4.7	
	6 x 6	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0		
	8 x 8	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0		
	10 x 10	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0		

Code Change No: RB187-19 149

Deck Post - R507.4

WWTP

150

Deck Beams - R507.5

2024 IRC

Support Deck Joist Spans and Cantilevers

Maximum allowable spans for wood deck beams, as shown in [Figure R507.5](#), shall be in accordance with [Tables R507.5\(1\)](#) through [R507.5\(4\)](#) and based on the joist span length and cantilever length as shown in [Figure R507.6](#).

Additional Language

RB182 AS, RB183 AS, RB184 AS

151

Deck Post Height - Table R507.4

2021 IRC

R507.4 Deck posts. For single-level decks, wood post size shall be in accordance with [Table R507.4](#).

TABLE R507.4—DECK POST HEIGHT

LBS/SPF (pcf)	POST SPECIES	POST SIZE	MINIMUM AREA (IN ²)							
			20	40	60	80	100	120	140	160
40 live load	Southern pine	4 x 4	14.0	13.0	11.0	9.5	8.4	7.5	6.9	6.2
		6 x 6	14.0	13.1	11.1	9.6	8.5	7.6	7.0	6.3
		8 x 8	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0
		10 x 10	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0
		12 x 12	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0
		14 x 14	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0
	Douglas fir, hem fir, or western white pine	4 x 4	14.0	13.0	11.0	9.5	8.4	7.5	6.9	6.2
		6 x 6	14.0	13.1	11.1	9.6	8.5	7.6	7.0	6.3
		8 x 8	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0
		10 x 10	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0
		12 x 12	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0
		14 x 14	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0
Redwood, western red cedar, or fire-treated pine	4 x 4	14.0	13.0	11.0	9.5	8.4	7.5	6.9	6.2	
	6 x 6	14.0	13.1	11.1	9.6	8.5	7.6	7.0	6.3	
	8 x 8	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	
	10 x 10	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	
	12 x 12	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	
	14 x 14	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	
Southern pine	4 x 4	14.0	13.0	11.0	9.5	8.4	7.5	6.9	6.2	
	6 x 6	14.0	13.1	11.1	9.6	8.5	7.6	7.0	6.3	
	8 x 8	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	
	10 x 10	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	
	12 x 12	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	
	14 x 14	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	
Douglas fir, hem fir, or western white pine	4 x 4	14.0	13.0	11.0	9.5	8.4	7.5	6.9	6.2	
	6 x 6	14.0	13.1	11.1	9.6	8.5	7.6	7.0	6.3	
	8 x 8	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	
	10 x 10	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	
	12 x 12	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	
	14 x 14	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	

Partial Table

RB184, 19 AMPC4

152

Support Deck Joist Spans and Cantilevers - Table R507.5(1)

2024 IRC

R507.5 Deck beams. Maximum allowable spans for wood deck beams, as shown in [Figure R507.5](#), shall be in accordance with [Tables R507.5\(1\)](#) through [R507.5\(4\)](#) and based on the joist span length and cantilever length as shown in [Figure R507.6](#). Beams shall be fastened together with two rows of 10d (3-inch x 0.1318-inch) nails maximum at 16 inches (406 mm) on center along each edge. Beams shall be permitted to cantilever at each end up to one-fourth of the actual beam span. Deck beams of other materials shall be permitted where designed in accordance with accepted engineering practices.

TABLE R507.5(1) MAXIMUM DECK BEAM SPAN—40 PSF LIVE LOAD

JOIST SPAN	JOIST SPAN (INCHES) x JOIST SPAN (INCHES) x JOIST SPAN (INCHES)			
	4 x 4	6 x 6	8 x 8	10 x 10
0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	0
2	0	0	0	0
3	0	0	0	0
4	0	0	0	0
5	0	0	0	0
6	0	0	0	0
7	0	0	0	0
8	0	0	0	0
9	0	0	0	0
10	0	0	0	0
11	0	0	0	0
12	0	0	0	0
13	0	0	0	0
14	0	0	0	0
15	0	0	0	0
16	0	0	0	0
17	0	0	0	0
18	0	0	0	0
19	0	0	0	0
20	0	0	0	0
21	0	0	0	0
22	0	0	0	0
23	0	0	0	0
24	0	0	0	0
25	0	0	0	0
26	0	0	0	0
27	0	0	0	0
28	0	0	0	0
29	0	0	0	0
30	0	0	0	0
31	0	0	0	0
32	0	0	0	0
33	0	0	0	0
34	0	0	0	0
35	0	0	0	0
36	0	0	0	0
37	0	0	0	0
38	0	0	0	0
39	0	0	0	0
40	0	0	0	0
41	0	0	0	0
42	0	0	0	0
43	0	0	0	0
44	0	0	0	0
45	0	0	0	0
46	0	0	0	0
47	0	0	0	0
48	0	0	0	0
49	0	0	0	0
50	0	0	0	0
51	0	0	0	0
52	0	0	0	0
53	0	0	0	0
54	0	0	0	0
55	0	0	0	0
56	0	0	0	0
57	0	0	0	0
58	0	0	0	0
59	0	0	0	0
60	0	0	0	0
61	0	0	0	0
62	0	0	0	0
63	0	0	0	0
64	0	0	0	0
65	0	0	0	0
66	0	0	0	0
67	0	0	0	0
68	0	0	0	0
69	0	0	0	0
70	0	0	0	0
71	0	0	0	0
72	0	0	0	0
73	0	0	0	0
74	0	0	0	0
75	0	0	0	0
76	0	0	0	0
77	0	0	0	0
78	0	0	0	0
79	0	0	0	0
80	0	0	0	0
81	0	0	0	0
82	0	0	0	0
83	0	0	0	0
84	0	0	0	0
85	0	0	0	0
86	0	0	0	0
87	0	0	0	0
88	0	0	0	0
89	0	0	0	0
90	0	0	0	0
91	0	0	0	0
92	0	0	0	0
93	0	0	0	0
94	0	0	0	0
95	0	0	0	0
96	0	0	0	0
97	0	0	0	0
98	0	0	0	0
99	0	0	0	0
100	0	0	0	0

Code Change

RB182-22 AS, RB183-22 AS, RB184-22 AS

153

Deck Ledger Flashing 2024 IRC

R507.9.1.8 Exterior wall coverings.
Exterior wall coverings shall be terminated above the finished deck surface in accordance with the covering manufacturer's requirements and Chapter 7, as applicable to the type of covering.

Exception: Exterior wall coverings shall be permitted behind ledgers in accordance with Section R507.9.1.5 where capable of resisting compression forces from the ledger attachment.

RB190-22 AMP/C1

Exterior Guards - R507.10 2021 IRC

New Code

- R507.10.1 Support of guards - Where guards are supported on deck framing, guard loads shall be transferred to the deck framing with a continuous load path to the deck joists.
- R507.10.1.1 Guards supported by side of deck framing - Where guards are connected to the interior or exterior side of a deck joist or beam, the joist or beam shall be connected to the adjacent joists to prevent rotation of the joist or beam. Connections relying only on fasteners in end grain withdrawal are not permitted.
- R507.10.1.2 Guards supported on top of deck framing - Where guards are mounted on top of the decking, the guards shall be connected to the deck framing or blocking and installed in accordance with manufacturer's instructions to transfer the guard loads to the adjacent joists.
- R507.10.2 Wood posts at deck guards - Where 4-inch by 4-inch wood posts support guard loads applied to the top of the guard, such posts shall not be notched at the connection to the supporting structure.
- R507.10.3 Plastic composite guards shall comply with the provisions of Section R507.2.2.
- R507.10.4 Other guards shall be in accordance with either manufacturer's instructions or accepted engineering principles.

Code Change No: RB285-19
Acceptance Criteria for Handrails and Guards – AC737

Exterior Guards - R507.10 2021 IRC

New Code

- Requirements for deck guardrails are added.
- Provisions mirror requirements for interior stairway ramp guards.
- Two methods to connect guards – to side or top of deck framing.



Code Change No: RB285-19

Chapter 6 – Walls, Fastening Schedules – Tables R602.3(1) 2021 IRC 2024 IRC

Modification of Sheathing

Item	Description of Building Elements	Number and Type of Fasteners ^{1,2,3}	Spacing of Fasteners ^{1,2,3}	
			Edges ⁴ (Inch)	Intermediate Support ^{1,2,3}
	Wood Structural Panels, Gypsum Board and Exterior Wall Sheathing for Framing and Partitioning of Wall Sheathing to Wall or concrete edge members ^{1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29,30,31,32,33,34,35,36,37,38,39,40,41,42,43,44,45,46,47,48,49,50,51,52,53,54,55,56,57,58,59,60,61,62,63,64,65,66,67,68,69,70,71,72,73,74,75,76,77,78,79,80,81,82,83,84,85,86,87,88,89,90,91,92,93,94,95,96,97,98,99,100}			
31	1/2" - 1/4"	16d ^{1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29,30,31,32,33,34,35,36,37,38,39,40,41,42,43,44,45,46,47,48,49,50,51,52,53,54,55,56,57,58,59,60,61,62,63,64,65,66,67,68,69,70,71,72,73,74,75,76,77,78,79,80,81,82,83,84,85,86,87,88,89,90,91,92,93,94,95,96,97,98,99,100}	6"	12"
32	1/2" - 1/4"	16d ^{1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29,30,31,32,33,34,35,36,37,38,39,40,41,42,43,44,45,46,47,48,49,50,51,52,53,54,55,56,57,58,59,60,61,62,63,64,65,66,67,68,69,70,71,72,73,74,75,76,77,78,79,80,81,82,83,84,85,86,87,88,89,90,91,92,93,94,95,96,97,98,99,100}	6"	12"

Fastener spacing applies where roof framing Specific Gravity (SG) ≥ 0.42 or larger.

Where roof framing specific gravity is greater than or equal to 0.35 but less than 0.42 in accordance with AWC NDS, fastening of roof sheathing shall be with RSRS-03 (2" x 0.131" x 0.281" head) nails.

RB192 AS, RB193 AMP/C, RB195 AMP/C

Location of Braced Wall Lines - R602.10.1.2 2021 IRC

R602.10.1.2 Location of braced wall lines and permitted offsets.

Each braced wall line shall be located such that no more than two-thirds of the required braced wall panel length is located to one side of the braced wall line.

Braced wall panels shall be permitted to be offset up to four feet from the designated braced wall line.

Code Change No: RB999-19

Modification

ICC-Explanation of Change

International Code Council

466

Location of Braced Wall Lines - R602.10.1.2 – Example 1 2021 IRC

Braced wall lines must be placed on a physical wall or placed between multiple walls.

Example 1:

The diagram shows a building footprint with two designated braced wall lines, BWL 1 and BWL 2. Braced wall panels (BWP) are shown as shaded areas. BWL 1 is a dashed line, and BWL 2 is a solid line. The BWP are offset from these lines. A legend indicates that the shaded area represents the BWP.

ICC-Explanation of Change

International Code Council

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Location of Braced Wall Lines - R602.10.1.2 2021 IRC

Over a series of code cycles, changes to IRC Section R602.10 wall bracing provisions have caused some of the important concepts fundamental to the development of the bracing provisions to be lost. In the 2006 IRC and earlier editions, braced wall panels were required on exterior walls with additional interior braced wall lines where needed to meet braced wall line spacing requirements. The concept that exterior walls are to be braced is not specifically stated in the 2009 IRC forward. Rather, a line is drawn on plans with braced wall panels on walls counted as part of a braced wall line when the panels are within four feet of the line drawn on the plans.

This sounds reasonable. It allows the designer to break up the exterior walls pushing some out and others inward along the front of a building. But what about when the front of a house is one single continuous wall? Can the designer still draw the braced wall line four feet inward of the actual wall?

The IRC did not address this issue leaving each jurisdiction to decide and designers arguing their case with each jurisdiction. In fact, most jurisdictions feel that the braced wall line must be on a physical wall when the braced wall line contains a single unbroken line.

For the 2021 edition, the IRC requires that at least one-third of all braced wall panels be either side of a braced wall line when some braced wall panels aren't on the braced wall line. Braced wall panels continue to be required to be within 4 feet of the braced wall line. For the case where a single wall forms the entire braced wall line, this change requires all braced wall panels to be at the braced wall line. In other words, the braced wall line must be drawn at the physical wall.

Explanation of Change

ICC-Explanation of Change

International Code Council

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Location of Braced Wall Lines - R602.10.1.2 – Example 2 2021 IRC

Example 2:

The diagram shows a building footprint with four designated braced wall lines: BWL 1, BWL 2, BWL A, and BWL C. Braced wall panels (BWP) are shown as shaded areas. BWL 1 and BWL 2 are dashed lines, while BWL A and BWL C are solid lines. The BWP are offset from these lines. A legend indicates that the shaded area represents the BWP.

ICC-Explanation of Change

International Code Council

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Location of Braced Wall Lines - R602.10.1.2 2021 IRC

Example 3:

International Code Council

ICC - Explanation of Change - Example 3

Location of Braced Wall Lines - R602.10.1.2 2021 IRC

Example 4:

ICC

ICC - Explanation of Change - Example 4

- It allows the design to break up the exterior walls pushing some out and others inward along the front of a building.
- But what about when the front of a house is one single continuous wall? Can the designer still draw the braced wall line four feet inward of the actual wall?
- Jurisdictions feel that the braced wall line must be on a physical wall when the braced wall line contains a single unbroken line.
- 2021 IRC requires that at least one-third of all braced wall panels be either side of a braced wall line when some braced wall panels aren't on the braced wall line.
- Braced wall panels continue to be required to be within 4 ft of the braced wall line. For the case where a single wall forms the entire braced wall line, this change requires all braced wall panels to be at the braced wall line. In other words, the braced wall line must be drawn at the physical wall.

Location of Braced Wall Lines - R602.10.1.2 2021 IRC

Example 4:

International Code Council

ICC - Explanation of Change - Example 4

Braced Wall Panel Placement - R602.10.2.2 2024 IRC

Code Change

- 2021 started this change.
- 2024 shows better clarity of the update.
- Figure identifies location of braced wall panels relative to the end of a braced all line

RB199 AM, RB200 AM

Locations of Braced Wall Panels – R602.10.2.2

□ The nearest edge of a braced wall panel shall be located within 10 ft. from each end of a braced wall line as determined in [Section R602.10.1.1](#).

RB199 AM, RB200 AM

Wall Height - Wood Framing – R602.10.3.1

2024 IRC

Table R602.10.3(2)
Wind Adjustment Factors to the Required Length of Wall Bracing

ITEM NUMBER	ADJUSTMENT BASED ON	STORY/SUPPORTING	CONDITION	ADJUSTMENT FACTOR [multiply length from Table R602.10.3(1) by this factor]
1	Wall Height (Section R602.10.3.1) Story Height (Section R602.10.3.1)	Any story	6 feet	0.95
			8 feet	0.95
			10 feet	1.00
			11 feet	1.05
			12 feet	1.10

RB201-22 AM

Wall Height - Wood Framing – R602.10.3.1

2024 IRC

R602.10.3.1 Wall height for wood framing

□ Terminology for wall height is clarified & updated

□ For determination of braced wall and panel adjustment factors in accordance with [Section R602.10](#), wall height shall be the vertical distance from the lower edge of the bottom plate to the upper edge of the upper top plate.

□ [Figure R602.10.3.1](#)

Figure R602.10.3.1

RB201-22 AM

Bracing Requirements Based on Seismic Design Category—continued – Table R602.10.3(3)

2021 IRC

TABLE R602.10.3(3)—BRACING REQUIREMENTS BASED ON SEISMIC DESIGN CATEGORY—continued

Seismic Design Category	Story Location	Braced Wall Line Length (feet)	Method 1 ^a	Method 2 ^a	Minimum Braced Wall Length (feet) for Seismic Design Category A, B, and F ^b	Minimum Braced Wall Length (feet) for Seismic Design Category C, D, E, and G ^b
A, B, F	One-story	10	NP	4.0	4.0	2.1
		20	NP	8.0	8.0	4.3
		30	NP	11.0	11.0	6.4
		40	NP	14.0	14.0	8.5
		50	NP	17.0	17.0	10.6
		60	NP	20.0	20.0	12.7
		70	NP	23.0	23.0	14.8
		80	NP	26.0	26.0	16.9
		90	NP	29.0	29.0	19.0
		100	NP	32.0	32.0	21.1
C, D, E, G	One-story	10	NP	NP	NP	NP
		20	NP	NP	NP	NP
		30	NP	NP	NP	NP
		40	NP	NP	NP	NP
		50	NP	NP	NP	NP
		60	NP	NP	NP	NP
		70	NP	NP	NP	NP
		80	NP	NP	NP	NP
		90	NP	NP	NP	NP
		100	NP	NP	NP	NP
C, D, E, G	Two-story	10	NP	NP	NP	NP
		20	NP	NP	NP	NP
		30	NP	NP	NP	NP
		40	NP	NP	NP	NP
		50	NP	NP	NP	NP
		60	NP	NP	NP	NP
		70	NP	NP	NP	NP
		80	NP	NP	NP	NP
		90	NP	NP	NP	NP
		100	NP	NP	NP	NP
C, D, E, G	Three-story	10	NP	NP	NP	NP
		20	NP	NP	NP	NP
		30	NP	NP	NP	NP
		40	NP	NP	NP	NP
		50	NP	NP	NP	NP
		60	NP	NP	NP	NP
		70	NP	NP	NP	NP
		80	NP	NP	NP	NP
		90	NP	NP	NP	NP
		100	NP	NP	NP	NP
C, D, E, G	Cripple wall below other or nonresidential	10	NP	NP	NP	NP
		20	NP	NP	NP	NP
		30	NP	NP	NP	NP
		40	NP	NP	NP	NP
		50	NP	NP	NP	NP
		60	NP	NP	NP	NP
		70	NP	NP	NP	NP
		80	NP	NP	NP	NP
		90	NP	NP	NP	NP
		100	NP	NP	NP	NP

□ Design Category: Adjustments for wall height provisions for areas of high seismic activity

RB204-19 AS

Clarification

Wall Bracing - Wood Framing – R602.10.5

2024 IRC

Table R602.10.5 - Minimum Length of Braced Wall Panels

Footnotes:

b. Use the actual length where it is greater than or equal to the minimum length.

- The actual length of Methods CS-G, CS-WSP, CS-SFB, PFH, PFG, and CS-PF is the length of the full-height sheathed section.
- Braced wall panel (BWP) length is from the outer edge of the outermost stud to the opening (outer edge of king stud to outer edge of jack stud at portal opening)

R602.10.6 - Construction of Methods ABW, PFH, PFG, CS-PF and BV-WSP.

Methods ABW, PFH, PFG, CS-PF and BV-WSP shall be constructed as specified in Sections R602.10.6.1 through R602.10.6.5.

For the purposes of determining braced wall panel spacing and end distance, the edge of Methods PFH, PFG and CS-PF shall be defined as the end of the header.


RB200-22 AM 438

New Code

Garage Door Labelling- R609.4.1

2023 IRC

- Garage doors shall be labeled with a **permanent label** provided by the garage door manufacturer.
- The label shall identify the garage door:
 - manufacturer
 - model/series number
 - positive and negative design wind pressure rating
 - installation instruction drawing reference number
 - applicable test standard



RB215-19


Clarification

Construction Methods –R602.10.6 - Alternative BWPs

2024 IRC

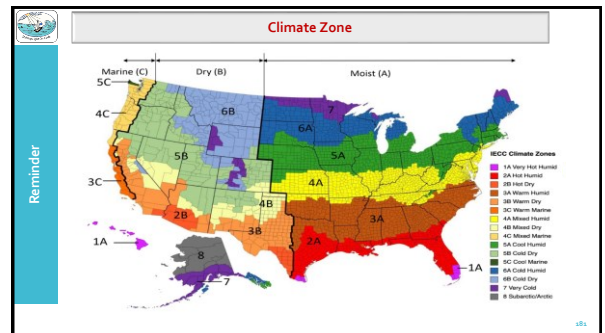
Length of Portal Frame

Note: Header shall not extend over more than one opening.



- The intent of this change proposal is to clarify the header requirement for portal frames and to limit the header to a single-span configuration, as originally tested, with double portal frames. This question has been frequently raised in the field and is worth clarification in the IRC. Portal frames first appeared in the 2009 IRC and were based on tests conducted by APA and NAAHB, in which the headers were tested in a single-span configuration. While it can be argued that this is reflected in the detailed drawings of the existing Figures R602.10.6.2, R602.10.6.3, and R602.10.6.4, a careful examination is usually required to spot such a subtle difference. The addition of the clarification note as proposed will make these figures easier to follow and less prone to confusion. In practical applications, continuous headers if purchased for double portal frames can be cut into 2 single-span headers before installation into each portal frame.

RB200-22 AM, RB202 AM, RB203 AS, RB204 AS 439



Vapor Retarders - R702.7 2024 IRC

Code Addition

❑ New Definition has been added
Responsive Vapor Retarder is added

A vapor retarder material complying with a vapor retarder class of Class I or Class II but which also has a vapor permeance of 1 perm or greater in accordance with ASTM E96, water method (Procedure A).

❑ Continuous insulation without a vapor retarder on the exterior side of walls is allowed in some climate zones

❑ May providing a water-resistant barrier behind exterior cladding with a means of draining to the exterior any water that enters the assembly.

Table R702.7(5)

RB2008-22 AM, RB2009-22 AM, RB210-22 AS

Climate Zone - Vapor Retarders - R702.7 2024 IRC

Code Change & Modification

TABLE R702.7(5) VAPOR RETARDER OPTIONS

CLIMATE ZONE	VAPOR RETARDER CLASS		
	CLASS I	CLASS II	CLASS III
1, 2	Not Permitted	Not Permitted	Permitted
3, 4 (except Subzone 4)	Not Permitted	Permitted	Permitted
Moisture 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	Permitted	Permitted	See Table R702.7(5)

a. A responsive vapor retarder shall be allowed on the interior side of any frame wall in all climate zones.
 b. In frame walls, use of Class I vapor retarder that is not responsive vapor retarder on the interior side with Class I vapor retarder on the exterior side shall require an approved design.
 c. Where a Class II or vapor retarder is used in conjunction with non-pneumatically applied exterior continuous insulation on the exterior side of frame walls, the continuous insulation shall comply with Table R702.7(5) and the Class II or I vapor retarder shall be responsive vapor retarder.

TABLE R702.7(5) CONTINUOUS INSULATION ON WALLS WITHOUT CLASS I, II OR III INTERIOR VAPOR RETARDERS^a

CLIMATE ZONE	REQUIRED CONTINUOUS INSULATION ^b
1	Continuous insulation with R-value ≥ 4.0
2	Continuous insulation with R-value ≥ 5.0
3	Continuous insulation with R-value ≥ 6.0
4	Continuous insulation with R-value ≥ 7.0
5	Continuous insulation with R-value ≥ 8.0
6	Continuous insulation with R-value ≥ 9.0
7	Continuous insulation with R-value ≥ 10.0
8	Continuous insulation with R-value ≥ 11.0

a. The total insulating value of materials on the exterior side of the exterior continuous insulation, including any cavity insulation, shall not exceed R-5. Where the R-value of materials on the interior side of the exterior continuous insulation exceeds R-5, an approved design shall be required.
 b. A water vapor control material shall have a permeance of not greater than 1 perm in accordance with ASTM E96, Procedure A. It shall not be designed to be the exterior side of the exterior continuous insulation. The exterior continuous insulation shall be permitted to serve as the vapor control layer (Class I, II or III) provided in walls of frame in the interior side of the exterior continuous insulation in a Class I, II or III climate zone.
 c. The requirement for the exterior continuous insulation to be used in conjunction with exterior continuous insulation in order to allow walls without a Class I, II or III interior vapor retarder. The insulation materials used to satisfy this condition shall not be used to exceed the thermal transmittance requirements within International Energy Conservation Code.

a. The total insulating value of materials to the interior side of the exterior continuous insulation, including any cavity insulation, shall not exceed R-5.

RB2008 AM, RB2009 AM, RB210 AS

Vapor Retarders - R702.7 2024 IRC

Modification

❑ R702.7 Vapor retarder materials shall be classified in accordance with Table R702.7(1). A vapor retarder shall be provided on the interior side of frame walls of the class indicated in Table R702.7(2), including compliance with Table R702.7(3) or R702.7(4) where applicable. An approved design using accepted engineering practice for hygrothermal analysis shall be permitted as an alternative. Vapor retarders shall be installed in accordance with Section R702.7.2. The climate zone shall be determined in accordance with Section N1101.7.

Exceptions:

1. Basement walls.
2. Below-grade portion of any wall.
3. Construction where accumulation, condensation or freezing of moisture will not damage the materials.
4. A vapor retarder shall not be required in Climate Zones 1, 2 and 3.
5. In Climate Zones 4 through 8, a vapor retarder shall not be required where the assembly complies with Table R702.7(5).

Table R702.7(1) Vapor Retarder Materials and Classes

CLASS	ACCEPTED MATERIALS
1	Sheet polyethylene, nonperforated aluminum foil or other approved materials with a perm rating less than or equal to 0.1.
2	Knock-down fiberglass batts, vapor retarder paint or other approved materials applied in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions for a perm rating greater than 0.1 and less than or equal to 1.0.
3	Latex paint, enamel paint or other approved materials applied in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions for a perm rating greater than 1.0 and less than or equal to 10.0.

❑ Control of water vapor may also be accomplished by using exterior continuous insulation without an interior vapor retarder.

RB213-19 (21) & RB213-35 (24)

Spray Foam Plastic - R702.7.1 2021 IRC 2024 IRC

Code Change

R702.7.1 Spray foam plastic insulation for moisture control with Class II and III vapor retarders.

For purposes of compliance with Tables R702.7(3) and R702.7(4), spray foam with a maximum permeance of 1.5 perms at the installed thickness applied to the interior side of wood structural panels, fiberboard, insulating sheathing or gypsum shall be deemed to meet the continuous insulation moisture control requirement in accordance with one of the following conditions:

1. The spray foam R-value is equal to or greater than the specified continuous insulation R-value.
2. The combined R-value of the spray foam and continuous insulation is equal to or greater than the specified continuous insulation R-value.

RB213-19 (21) & RB213-35 (24)

Code Modification & New - R703.2 2021 IRC

R703.2 Water-resistive barrier:

Not lower than one layer of water-resistive barrier shall be applied over studs or sheathing of all exterior walls with flashing as indicated in Section R703.2.4, in such a manner as to provide a continuous water-resistive barrier behind the exterior wall unless water-resistive barrier. The water-resistive barrier material shall be continuous to the top of walls and terminated at penetrations and building appendages in a manner to meet the requirements of the exterior wall envelope as described in Section R703.2.5. Where the water-resistive barrier also functions as a component of a continuous air barrier, the water-resistive barrier shall be installed as an air barrier in accordance with Section N1102.5.1.1. Water-resistive barrier materials shall comply with one of the following:

1. No. 15 felt complying with ASTM D226, Type 1.
2. ASTM E2556, Type I or II.
3. Foam plastic sheathing sheathing water-resistive barrier systems complying with Section R703.2.4 and installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions.
4. ASTM E2101 in accordance with Section R703.2.4.
5. Other approved materials in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions.

No. 15 asphalt felt and water-resistive barriers complying with ASTM E2556 shall be applied horizontally, with the upper layer lapped over the lower layer not less than 2 inches (51 mm), and where joints occur, shall be lapped not less than 6 inches (152 mm).

Exception: A water-resistive barrier shall not be required in unconditioned detached tool sheds, storage sheds, playhouses, and other similar accessory structures provided all of the following requirements are met:

1. Exterior wall covering is limited to siding that is attached directly to studs.
2. Exterior walls are unsealed.
3. Interior side of exterior walls has no wall covering or wall finishes.

RB190 AMPC, RB212 AS, RB213 AS, RB214 AS

Water-Resistive Barriers 2023 IRC

R703.2, R703.7.3

Classification

- WRB material options include:
 - No. 15 felt complying with ASTM D226, Type 1
 - ASTM E2556, Type I or II
 - ASTM E331
 - Other approved materials
- WRB requirements for dry climates versus wet climates are defined for stucco.

Combining Sheathing w/ WRB and Air Barrier

Rubberized Asphalt Membrane

Spray-on Water-Resistive Barriers

Water Resistive Barriers (WRBs)

Vapor Retarders - R702.7 2021 IRC

Classification

The International Residential Code (IRC) defines vapor retarders as Class I, II or III based on how permeable they are to water vapor, the lower the permeability – the less water vapor that will pass through the vapor retarder.

- **Class I – Very low permeability vapor retarders** – rated at 0.1 perms or less. Sheet polyethylene (visqueen) or unperforated aluminum foil (FSK) are Class I vapor retarders.
- **Class II – Low permeability vapor retarders** – rated greater than 0.1 perms and less than or equal to 1.0 perms. The kraft facing on batts qualify as a Class II vapor retarder.
- **Class III – Medium permeability vapor retarders** – rated greater than 1.0 perms and less than or equal to 10 perms. Latex or enamel paint qualify as Class III vapor retarders.

Vapor Retarder	Perm Rating
Insulation Facing, Kraft	1.0
1/2 inch Plywood (Douglas fir, exterior glue)	0.7
Insulation Facing, Felt Kraft, Laminated	0.5
Vapor Retarder Latex Paint 0.0031 inch thick	0.45
0.002 inch Polyethylene	0.16
0.004 inch Polyethylene	0.06
0.0006 inch Polyethylene	0.06
Aluminum foil 0.00035 inch thick	0.05
Aluminum foil 0.001 inch thick	0.01

Water-Resistive Barrier - R703.2

Modification

- Continuous WRB behind deck ledgers
- Shall not terminate on top of the ledger

RB190 AMPC, RB212 AS, RB213 AS, RB214 AS

Flashing – R703.4

Clarified Application

- Approved corrosion-resistant flashing shall be applied in a manner to prevent entry of water into the wall cavity or penetration of water to the building structural framing components. Overlapped flashing shall be applied in shingle fashion...
- Flashing shall be installed above deck ledgers in accordance with Section R507.9.1.5.

<https://www.decks.com>

RB218, RB219, RB190-22

Water Resistive Barriers for Stucco – R703.7.3

Addition

2024 IRC

- Several changes to the water-resistive barrier (WRB) requirements for stucco:
 - Sheathing:** WRBs and drainage requirements now apply to all sheathing types behind stucco, not just wood-based sheathing.
 - Dry climates:** WRB options for stucco in dry climates have been modified.
 - Separation:** The WRB must be separated from the stucco by a drainage space, waterproof layer, foam insulation, or material that drains water away from the wall.
 - Flashing:** Requirements added

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Furring over WRBs for Shakes and Shingles – R703.6.1

Addition

- Alternatively, horizontal furring shall be gapped not less than $\frac{3}{16}$ inch from the surface of the water-resistive barrier without the requirement for a vertical furring strip.
- When installed over foam plastic insulating sheathing, furring attachments shall comply with Section R703.15, R703.16 or R703.17
- Furring required over continuous insulation before applying wood shakes or shingles.

193

Tie Attachment and Airspace - Table R703.8.4(1)

Addition

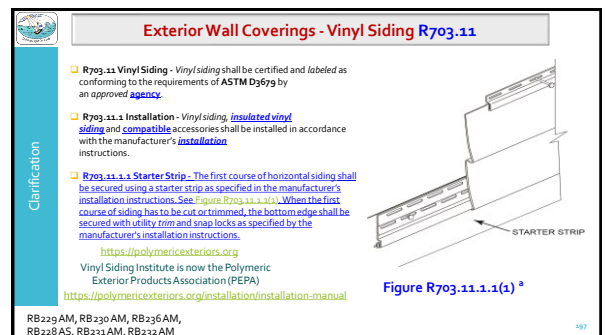
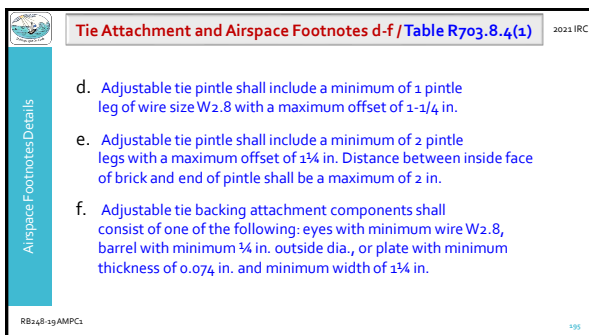
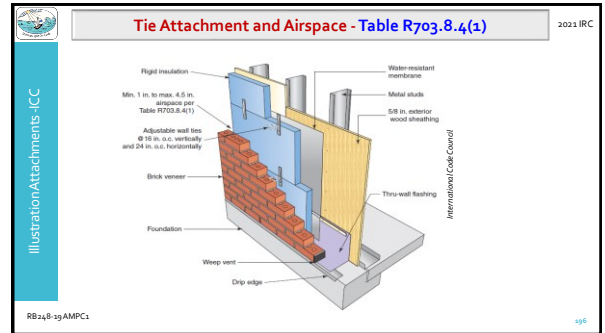
2021 IRC

Larger air gaps are allowed behind veneer to accommodate thicker continuous insulation.
 (Note: table illustration is not showing the min. Tie and Tie fastener columns)

Backing and Tie	Airspace ^a	
	Nominal 1 in. between sheathing and veneer	
Wood stud backing with corrugated sheet metal	Minimum nominal 1 in. between sheathing and veneer	Maximum 4 1/8 in. between backing and veneer
Wood stud backing with adjustable metal strand wire	Minimum nominal 1 in. between sheathing and veneer	Maximum 4 1/8 in. between backing and veneer
Wood stud backing with adjustable metal strand wire	Greater than 4 1/8 in. between backing and veneer	Maximum 5 1/8 in. between backing and veneer
Cold-formed steel stud backing with adjustable metal strand wire	Minimum nominal 1 in. between sheathing and veneer	Maximum 4 1/8 in. between backing and veneer
Cold-formed steel stud backing with adjustable metal strand wire	Greater than 4 1/8 in. between backing and veneer	Maximum 5 1/8 in. between backing and veneer

RB248-19 AMPCL

193



Vinyl Siding - Exterior Wall Coverings - R703.11

R703.11.1.2 Utility trim.
When horizontal siding has to be cut or trimmed below windows and at the top of walls, the top edge of the siding shall be secured with utility trim and snap locks or as specified by the manufacturer's installation instructions. See [Figures R703.11.1.2\(1\)](#) and [R703.11.1.2\(2\)](#).

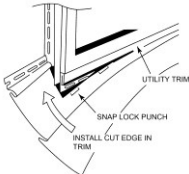


Figure R703.11.1.2 (2)
Typical Snap Lock and Utility Trim Under Window

RB229 AM, RB230-22 AM, RB236 AM,
RB228 AS, RB231 AM, RB232 AM

Table R703.11.2 Required Minimum Wind Load Design Pressure Rating

2021 IRC

ULTIMATE DESIGN WIND SPEED (MPH)	ADJUSTED MINIMUM DESIGN WIND PRESSURE (ASD) (PSF) ^{a,b}					
	Case 1: With interior gypsum wallboard ^c			Case 2: Without interior gypsum wallboard ^c		
	Exposure			Exposure		
	B	C	D	B	C	D
95	-30.0	-33.2	-39.4	-33.9	-47.4	-56.2
100	-30.0	-36.8	-43.6	-37.2	-52.5	-62.2
105	-32.0	-40.5	-48.3	-41.4	-57.9	-68.5
110	-34.0	-44.6	-53.9	-43.9	-63.9	-75.4
115	-36.0	-49.2	-60.0	-46.9	-70.5	-82.7
120	-38.0	-54.2	-66.6	-49.9	-77.9	-90.5
125	-40.0	-59.7	-73.7	-52.9	-85.9	-98.5
130	-42.0	-65.7	-81.3	-55.9	-94.4	-107.0
135	-44.0	-72.2	-89.4	-58.9	-103.4	-116.0
>130	See Footnote d Not Allowed ^d					


RB233-19

Vinyl Siding over Continuous Insulation - R703.11.2

2021 IRC

TABLE R703.11.2 ADJUSTED REQUIRED MINIMUM WIND LOAD DESIGN WIND PRESSURE REQUIREMENT RATING FOR VINYL SIDING INSTALLED OVER FOAM PLASTIC SHEATHING ALONE

Table R703.11.2 is updated so adjusted vinyl siding design wind pressure ratings are consistent with requirements in ASTM D3679



RB233-19

Fiber-Mat Reinforced Backer Units - R703.18

RB235-22

Original Proposal

IRC: R703.18 (New)
Proposed by: Michael Gardner, M. Gardner Services, LLC, National Gypsum Company (michael@mgardnerservices.com)

2021 International Residential Code

Add new text as follows:

R703.18 Fiber-mat reinforced cementitious backer units. Fiber-mat reinforced cementitious backer units shall comply with ASTM C1325. Installation shall be in accordance with manufacturer's installation instructions. Backer units shall be installed using corrosion-resistant fasteners. Finish materials shall be installed in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.

Reason: ASTM C1325 (cement board) technically, fiber-mat reinforced cementitious backer unit) was incorporated into the IRC in the mid-2000s when it was added to Section 702 as a substrate for interior wall tile in shower and tub areas. In the interim period, C1325 cement board has gained use as an exterior substrate. It is primarily used for architectural stone and direct-applied finish system applications. Exterior use of cement board is permitted by the C1325 standard and the two applicable Acceptance Criteria for cement board, AC 308, which addresses the cement board itself, and AC 309, which addresses direct-applied finish systems. But because the only IRC reference to the material is the interior use described in Section 702 confusion occurs regarding the ability to use cement board as an exterior substrate. This proposed update to clarify that cement board conforming with the ASTM C1325 standard can be used as a substrate in exterior applications by expanding the existing IRC reference to apply to exterior applications under Section 702.

A change to the IRC with the same intent was approved during the 'W' Cycle.

RB235-22 AS

Exterior Soffits and Fascia - R704 2021 IRC

Code Change

- Requirements for soffit material and installation are expanded in a new section.
- Aluminum soffits addressed in Section R704
- Requirements for fascia are added in Section R704.4 mirroring soffit requirements
- Vinyl soffit panels are required to be **fastened** each end and an unsupported span
- Cannot >16" unless permitted by the manufacturer's product approval

RB234-19 203

Exterior Soffits and Fascia - R704 2024 IRC

New Code

R704.4 Fascia - shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions.

R704.4.1 Aluminum fascia - Aluminum fascia shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions and comply with Section R704.4.3.3 or R704.4.3.2.

R704.4.1.1 Fascia installation where the design wind pressure is 30 psf or less - When the design wind pressure is 30 lb. psf. or less, aluminum fascia shall be attached with one finish nail (1 1/4" x 0.52" x 0.32" head diameter (8.2 mm x 14.5 mm x 4.5 mm)) in the return leg spaced a maximum of 24" o.c., and the fascia shall be inserted under the drip edge with at least 1" of fascia material covered by the drip edge.

R704.4.1.2 Fascia installation where the design wind pressure exceeds 30 psf - ...

RB236 AMPCC, RB237-22 AS, RB238 204

Soffits - R704 2021 IRC

New Code & Clarification

- R704.1 General wind limitations
- R704.2 Soffit installation where the design wind pressure is 30 psf or less
- R704.2.1 Vinyl soffit panels
- R704.2.2 Fiber-cement soffit panels
- R704.2.3 Hardboard soffit panels
- R704.2.4 Wood structural panel soffit
- R704.3 Soffit installation where the design wind pressure exceeds 30 psf
- R704.3.1 Vinyl soffit panels
- R704.3.2 Fiber-cement soffit panels
- R704.3.3 Hardboard soffit panels
- R704.3.4 Wood structural panel soffit

RB234-19 203

Wood Roof Framing - R802 2021 IRC

Wood Roof Framing

- Revised provisions clarify ridge beam and ceiling joist requirements.

203

Fire-Retardant-Treated Wood - R802.1.5 - R302.15.2 2021 IRC
2024 IRC

R802.1.5.2 R302.15.2 Other means during manufacture

For wood products **impregnated with chemicals** by other means during manufacture, the treatment shall be an integral part of the manufacturing process of the wood product. The treatment shall provide permanent protection to all surfaces of the wood product. **The use of paints, coating, stains or other surface treatments is not an approved method of protection as required by this section.**

R802.1.5.3 R302.1.5.3 Testing.

For fire-retardant-treated wood products, the front and back faces of the wood product shall be tested in accordance with and produce the results required in **Section R302.15.**

R802.1.5.3.1 R302.1.5.3.1 Fire testing of **fire-retardant-treated** wood structural panels.

Fire-retardant-treated wood structural panels shall be tested with a ripped or cut longitudinal gap of $\frac{1}{8}$ inch.

RB243-22 (Proponents: Marcelo Hirscher, GBH International, GBH International) 2025

Rafter/Ceiling Joist Heel Joint Connections - Table R802.5.2(1) 2021 IRC

RAFTER SLOPE	RAFTER SPACING (inches)	GROUND SNOW LOAD (psf)											
		20 ^a						50					
		Roof span (feet)											
		12	24	36	12	24	36	12	24	36	12	24	36
		Required number of 16d common nails per heel joint splice ^{a,b,c,d,f}											
3:12	12	3	5	8	3	5	8	5	8	13	6	12	17
	16	4	7	10	4	7	10	6	10	17	8	15	20
	19.2	4	8	12	5	10	14	7	14	21	9	18	27
	24	5	10	15	6	12	18	9	17	26	12	23	34
4:12	12	3	4	6	3	5	7	4	6	10	5	9	13
	16	3	5	8	3	6	9	5	9	13	6	12	17
	19.2	3	6	9	4	7	11	6	11	16	7	14	21
	24	4	8	13	5	9	13	7	13	20	9	17	26
5:12	12	3	4	6	3	4	6	3	4	8	4	7	10
	16	3	4	6	3	5	7	4	7	11	5	9	14
	19.2	3	5	7	3	6	9	5	9	13	6	11	17
	24	3	6	9	4	7	11	6	11	16	7	14	21
12:12	12	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	3	5	
	16	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	5	3	4	6	
	19.2	3	3	3	3	4	3	4	5	3	5	7	
	24	3	3	4	3	5	3	5	7	3	6	9	

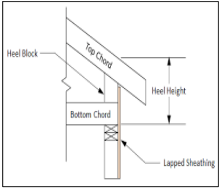
a. 16d common (1" x 3.48") nails shall be permitted to be substituted for 16d common (1 1/2" x 3.48") nails where the required number of nails is taken as 1.1 times the required number of 16d common nails, rounded up to the next full nail.

Joint Connections Footnote ^a 2025

Heel Joint Connections - Table R802.5.2(1) 2021 IRC

Table R802.5.2(1) Heel Joint Connections

□ The heel joint connection table is updated for roof spans of 24 and 36 feet and a 19.2-inch rafter spacing.



2025

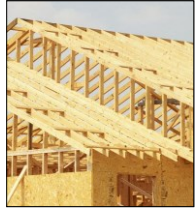
Rafter and Ceiling Joist Bearing - R802.6 2021 IRC

Rafter and Ceiling Joist Bearing

Where:

1. Roof pitch is $\geq 3:12$ (25% slope)
2. Ceiling joists or rafter ties are connected to rafters to provide a continuous tension tie

Vertical bearing of the top of the rafter against the ridge board shall satisfy the bearing requirement.



RB244-19 2025

Roof Assemblies Covering Materials – R902.1 2024 IRC

Roof Assembly

- Roof decks shall be covered with materials as set forth in [Section R904](#), or with roof coverings as set forth in [Section R905](#). Class A, B or C roof assemblies shall be installed in *jurisdictions* designated by law as requiring their use or where the edge of the roof deck is less than 3 feet (914 mm) from a *lot line*. Where Class A, B or C roof assemblies are required, they shall be tested in accordance with ASTM E108 or [UL 790](#). Where required, the roof assembly shall be listed and identified as to class by an approved testing agency.
- Reason:** Changing "roofing" to "roof assemblies" in Section R902.1 is important to recognize that roof assemblies are classified, not "roofing." The additional changes create a logical progression of thought that establishes when fire classification is required, what tests are to be done when fire classification is necessary, and provisions for listing when that additional step is appropriate.

RB251-22AS, RB252-22AS, RB254-22AS 210

Roof Covering - Sheathing - 905 2024 IRC

Roof Covering Application

- R905.2.1 Sheathing requirements.** Asphalt shingles shall be fastened to [wood structural panels or solid lumber sheathing](#). ~~solidly sheathed decks.~~
- R905.3.1 Deck Sheathing requirements.** Concrete and clay tile shall be installed ~~only over solid sheathing:~~ [wood structural panels or solid lumber sheathing](#).
- R905.4.1 Deck Sheathing requirements.** Metal roof shingles shall be fastened to [wood structural panels, solid lumber sheathing, or closely-fitted lumber sheathing applied to a solid or closely-fitted deck](#), except where the roof covering is specifically designed to be applied to spaced [lumber](#) sheathing.

IRC: R905.2.1 – RB254-22 211

Ice Barriers - R905 2024 IRC

Roof Assemblies

- A significant change in the 2024 IRC that affects how ice barriers are installed on steep-sloped roofs.
- Specifically, Section R905.1.2 & R905.2.1 which governs the use of ice barriers, has been revised to remove a requirement that applied to roofs with a slope of 8:12 or greater.

Code language

- The ice barrier shall consist of not fewer than two layers of *underlayment* cemented together, or a self-adhering polymer-modified bitumen sheet shall be used in place of normal *underlayment* and extend from the lowest edges of all roof surfaces to a point not less than 24 inches inside the exterior wall line of the *building*.
- On roofs with slope equal to or greater than 8 units vertical in 12 units horizontal, the ice barrier shall be applied not less than 36 inches measured along the roof slope from the eave edge of the *building*.

R905.1.2 - RB262-22 211

Clay, Concrete and Slate Roofs – Wind - R905 2024 IRC

Wind Resistance



- Roof cladding must resist component and cladding loads
- R905.3.6 Wind resistance of concrete and clay tile**
- R905.5.6 Wind resistance of mineral-surfaced roll roofing - R905.6.5 Wind resistance of slate shingles.**
- Component and cladding loads specified in [Table R301.2.3\(1\)](#), adjusted for height and exposure in accordance with [Table R301.2.3\(2\)](#).

RB266-22 AM 213

RB268-22

Original Proposal

IRC R905.6.6 (New), TABLE R905.6.6 (New)

Proponent: Mark Graham, National Roofing Contractors Assoc., National Roofing Contractors Assoc. (mgram@nrca.net)

2021 International Residential Code

Add new text as follows:

R905.6.6 Wind resistance of slate shingles. Slate shingles shall be tested in accordance with ASTM D2151. Slate shingle packaging shall bear a label indicating compliance with ASTM D2151 and the required classification in Table R905.6.6.

TABLE R905.6.6 CLASSIFICATION OF SLATE SHINGLES TESTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ASTM D2151

MINIMUM ULTIMATE DESIGN WIND SPEED, mph FROM TABLE R301.2.1(1)	MAXIMUM BASIC WIND SPEED, mph FROM TABLE R301.2.1(1)	APPROPRIATE CLASSIFICATION
100	80	Class 1
110	90	Class 2
120	100	Class 3
130	110	Class 4
140	120	Class 5
150	130	Class 6
160	140	Class 7
170	150	Class 8
180	160	Class 9
190	170	Class 10
200	180	Class 11
210	190	Class 12
220	200	Class 13
230	210	Class 14
240	220	Class 15
250	230	Class 16
260	240	Class 17
270	250	Class 18
280	260	Class 19
290	270	Class 20
300	280	Class 21
310	290	Class 22
320	300	Class 23
330	310	Class 24
340	320	Class 25
350	330	Class 26
360	340	Class 27
370	350	Class 28
380	360	Class 29
390	370	Class 30
400	380	Class 31
410	390	Class 32
420	400	Class 33
430	410	Class 34
440	420	Class 35
450	430	Class 36
460	440	Class 37
470	450	Class 38
480	460	Class 39
490	470	Class 40
500	480	Class 41
510	490	Class 42
520	500	Class 43
530	510	Class 44
540	520	Class 45
550	530	Class 46
560	540	Class 47
570	550	Class 48
580	560	Class 49
590	570	Class 50
600	580	Class 51
610	590	Class 52
620	600	Class 53
630	610	Class 54
640	620	Class 55
650	630	Class 56
660	640	Class 57
670	650	Class 58
680	660	Class 59
690	670	Class 60
700	680	Class 61
710	690	Class 62
720	700	Class 63
730	710	Class 64
740	720	Class 65
750	730	Class 66
760	740	Class 67
770	750	Class 68
780	760	Class 69
790	770	Class 70
800	780	Class 71
810	790	Class 72
820	800	Class 73
830	810	Class 74
840	820	Class 75
850	830	Class 76
860	840	Class 77
870	850	Class 78
880	860	Class 79
890	870	Class 80
900	880	Class 81
910	890	Class 82
920	900	Class 83
930	910	Class 84
940	920	Class 85
950	930	Class 86
960	940	Class 87
970	950	Class 88
980	960	Class 89
990	970	Class 90
1000	980	Class 91
1010	990	Class 92
1020	1000	Class 93
1030	1010	Class 94
1040	1020	Class 95
1050	1030	Class 96
1060	1040	Class 97
1070	1050	Class 98
1080	1060	Class 99
1090	1070	Class 100
1100	1080	Class 101
1110	1090	Class 102
1120	1100	Class 103
1130	1110	Class 104
1140	1120	Class 105
1150	1130	Class 106
1160	1140	Class 107
1170	1150	Class 108
1180	1160	Class 109
1190	1170	Class 110
1200	1180	Class 111
1210	1190	Class 112
1220	1200	Class 113
1230	1210	Class 114
1240	1220	Class 115
1250	1230	Class 116
1260	1240	Class 117
1270	1250	Class 118
1280	1260	Class 119
1290	1270	Class 120
1300	1280	Class 121
1310	1290	Class 122
1320	1300	Class 123
1330	1310	Class 124
1340	1320	Class 125
1350	1330	Class 126
1360	1340	Class 127
1370	1350	Class 128
1380	1360	Class 129
1390	1370	Class 130
1400	1380	Class 131
1410	1390	Class 132
1420	1400	Class 133
1430	1410	Class 134
1440	1420	Class 135
1450	1430	Class 136
1460	1440	Class 137
1470	1450	Class 138
1480	1460	Class 139
1490	1470	Class 140
1500	1480	Class 141
1510	1490	Class 142
1520	1500	Class 143
1530	1510	Class 144
1540	1520	Class 145
1550	1530	Class 146
1560	1540	Class 147
1570	1550	Class 148
1580	1560	Class 149
1590	1570	Class 150
1600	1580	Class 151
1610	1590	Class 152
1620	1600	Class 153
1630	1610	Class 154
1640	1620	Class 155
1650	1630	Class 156
1660	1640	Class 157
1670	1650	Class 158
1680	1660	Class 159
1690	1670	Class 160
1700	1680	Class 161
1710	1690	Class 162
1720	1700	Class 163
1730	1710	Class 164
1740	1720	Class 165
1750	1730	Class 166
1760	1740	Class 167
1770	1750	Class 168
1780	1760	Class 169
1790	1770	Class 170
1800	1780	Class 171
1810	1790	Class 172
1820	1800	Class 173
1830	1810	Class 174
1840	1820	Class 175
1850	1830	Class 176
1860	1840	Class 177
1870	1850	Class 178
1880	1860	Class 179
1890	1870	Class 180
1900	1880	Class 181
1910	1890	Class 182
1920	1900	Class 183
1930	1910	Class 184
1940	1920	Class 185
1950	1930	Class 186
1960	1940	Class 187
1970	1950	Class 188
1980	1960	Class 189
1990	1970	Class 190
2000	1980	Class 191
2010	1990	Class 192
2020	2000	Class 193
2030	2010	Class 194
2040	2020	Class 195
2050	2030	Class 196
2060	2040	Class 197
2070	2050	Class 198
2080	2060	Class 199
2090	2070	Class 200
2100	2080	Class 201
2110	2090	Class 202
2120	2100	Class 203
2130	2110	Class 204
2140	2120	Class 205
2150	2130	Class 206
2160	2140	Class 207
2170	2150	Class 208
2180	2160	Class 209
2190	2170	Class 210
2200	2180	Class 211
2210	2190	Class 212
2220	2200	Class 213
2230	2210	Class 214
2240	2220	Class 215
2250	2230	Class 216
2260	2240	Class 217
2270	2250	Class 218
2280	2260	Class 219
2290	2270	Class 220
2300	2280	Class 221
2310	2290	Class 222
2320	2300	Class 223
2330	2310	Class 224
2340	2320	Class 225
2350	2330	Class 226
2360	2340	Class 227
2370	2350	Class 228
2380	2360	Class 229
2390	2370	Class 230
2400	2380	Class 231
2410	2390	Class 232
2420	2400	Class 233
2430	2410	Class 234
2440	2420	Class 235
2450	2430	Class 236
2460	2440	Class 237
2470	2450	Class 238
2480	2460	Class 239
2490	2470	Class 240
2500	2480	Class 241
2510	2490	Class 242
2520	2500	Class 243
2530	2510	Class 244
2540	2520	Class 245
2550	2530	Class 246
2560	2540	Class 247
2570	2550	Class 248
2580	2560	Class 249
2590	2570	Class 250
2600	2580	Class 251
2610	2590	Class 252
2620	2600	Class 253
2630	2610	Class 254
2640	2620	Class 255
2650	2630	Class 256
2660	2640	Class 257
2670	2650	Class 258
2680	2660	Class 259
2690	2670	Class 260
2700	2680	Class 261
2710	2690	Class 262
2720	2700	Class 263
2730	2710	Class 264
2740	2720	Class 265
2750	2730	Class 266
2760	2740	Class 267
2770	2750	Class 268
2780	2760	Class 269
2790	2770	Class 270
2800	2780	Class 271
2810	2790	Class 272
2820	2800	Class 273
2830	2810	Class 274
2840	2820	Class 275
2850	2830	Class 276
2860	2840	Class 277
2870	2850	Class 278
2880	2860	Class 279
2890	2870	Class 280
2900	2880	Class 281
2910	2890	Class 282
2920	2900	Class 283
2930	2910	Class 284
2940	2920	Class 285
2950	2930	Class 286
2960	2940	Class 287
2970	2950	Class 288
2980	2960	Class 289
2990	2970	Class 290
3000	2980	Class 291
3010	2990	Class 292
3020	3000	Class 293
3030	3010	Class 294
3040	3020	Class 295
3050	3030	Class 296
3060	3040	Class 297
3070	3050	Class 298
3080	3060	Class 299
3090	3070	Class 300
3100	3080	Class 301
3110	3090	Class 302
3120	3100	Class 303
3130	3110	Class 304
3140	3120	Class 305
3150	3130	Class 306
3160	3140	Class 307
3170	3150	Class 308
3180	3160	Class 309
3190	3170	Class 310
3200	3180	Class 311
3210	3190	Class 312
3220	3200	Class 313
3230	3210	Class 314
3240	3220	Class 315
3250	3230	Class 316
3260	3240	Class 317
3270	3250	Class 318
3280	3260	Class 319
3290	3270	Class 320
3300	3280	Class 321
3310	3290	Class 322
3320	3300	Class 323
3330	3310	

Single-ply Liquid and Sprayed Roofing – R905.12, R905.13, R905.14 2024 IRC

New Code & Addition

MATERIAL	STANDARD
Chlorosulfonated polyethylene (CSPE) or polyisobutylene (PIB)	ASTM D5019
Ethylene propylene diene monomer (EPDM)	ASTM D4637
Ketone Ethylene Ester (KEE)	ASTM D6754
Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) or (PVC/KEE)	ASTM D4434
Thermoplastic polyolefin (TPO)	ASTM D6878

RB266 AM, RB274 AS 208


Roof Replacement - R908.3 2024 IRC

New Code Exceptions

□ Roof Replacement: Exceptions 1-3

□ Ice-barrier membrane and self-adhered underlayment is permitted to stay in place if all material is in good shape. Without remove and another overlay.

- Sheathing not water soaked or deteriorated
- Permitted by manufacturer
- Second layer applied




RB281-22 AM 210

BIPV Roofs - R905.15, R905.16 2024 IRC

Clarification and Addition

R905.15.1 Sheathing requirements.
BIPV shingles shall be **fastened** to **wood structural panels**, solid lumber sheathing or closely fitted lumber sheathing, except where the **roof covering** is specifically designed to be applied over spaced lumber sheathing.

R905.16.1 Sheathing requirements.
BIPV roof panels shall be **fastened** to **wood structural panels**, solid lumber sheathing or closely-fitted lumber sheathing, except where the **roof covering** is specifically designed to be applied over spaced lumber sheathing.




RB254 AS, RB261 AS,
RB266 AM, S35-22 Part II AS 209

Roof Coatings - R909 2024 IRC

New Section in Code

□ Chpt 2 Definition: **ROOF COATING.** A fluid-applied, adhered coating used for roof maintenance or roof repair, or as a component of a roof covering system or roof assembly.

□ A new section lists the ASTM standard applicable to each roof coating referenced in the IRC standards in Table 902.2.



RB280-22 AS 211

New Section in Code

Roof Coatings - R909

2024 IRC

R909.1 General.
The installation of a *roof coating* on a *roof covering* shall comply with the requirements of [Section R902](#), [Section R904](#), and this section. *Roof coatings* shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions.

R909.2 Material standards.
Roof coating materials shall comply with one of the standards in [Table R909.2](#).

Table R909.2 Roof Coating Material Standards

COATING MATERIAL	STANDARD
Acrylic coating	ASTM D6683
Asphaltic emulsion coating	ASTM D1327
Asphalt coating	ASTM D2822
Asphalt roof coating	ASTM D4499
Aluminum-pigmented asphalt coating	ASTM D2824
Silicone coating	ASTM D6684
Moisture-cured polyurethane coating	ASTM D6947

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Some of the Updates

Summary

- Key changes to stairway landings, egress openings, and area wells.
- Important updates to foundation requirements, especially for seismic categories and crushed stone footings.
- Comprehensive additions for deck construction, including framing, ledger connections, and flashing.
- Clarifications on braced wall lines and panel locations, emphasizing the "on the physical wall" concept.
- New guidance on vapor retarders and water-resistive barriers, including for stucco and deck ledgers.
- Specific installation requirements for vinyl siding, soffits, and fascia.
- Major changes to roof assemblies, ice barriers, and wind resistance for various roofing materials.
- Introduction of roof coatings.

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Some of the Updates

Summary


- We've covered significant changes across various chapters, including the major reorganization of Chapter 3 for usability.
- New definitions like: Sleeping Lofts and Rainscreen Systems.
- Updates to wind design criteria and application.
- Clarifications on story heights and stud load-bearing capacities.
- Extensive revisions in fire protection, including new rules for two-family dwellings, shared accessory rooms, and floor membranes.
- New requirements for smoke and CO alarms, including placement in common spaces and near cooking appliances, 24 inches.
- Details on EV charging systems and automotive lifts in garages, ESS.

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Some of the Updates

Summary

- **Verify all code requirements.**
- **Call upon one another for uniformity of code enforcement.**
- **...And remember: "Life is good." (Brent Snyder 2006)**



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