



Code Administrators, Inc.

Plan Review ~ Code Inspection ~ Code Consulting ~ Code Education ~ Code Development
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2006 IRC Requirements for Laundry Alteration Projects

The following information is provided to assist permit applicants with the requirements of performing laundry alterations to a dwelling. These items are not inclusive and if there are questions regarding the code applicability to a specific project, a preliminary inspection with a construction code official should be scheduled with our office.

PLUMBING

P2502.2 Additions, alterations or repairs. Additions, alterations, renovations or repairs to any plumbing system shall conform to that required for a new plumbing system without requiring the existing plumbing system to comply with all the requirements of this code. Additions, alterations or repairs shall not cause an existing system to become unsafe, unsanitary or overloaded.

Minor additions, alterations, renovations and repairs to existing plumbing systems shall be permitted in the same manner and arrangement as in the existing system, provided that such repairs or replacement are not hazardous and are approved.

P2503.1 Inspection required. New plumbing work and parts of existing systems affected by new work or alterations shall be inspected by the building official to ensure compliance with the requirements of this code.

P2706.2 Standpipes. Standpipes shall extend a minimum of 18 inches (457 mm) and a maximum of 42 inches (1067 mm) above the trap weir. Access shall be provided to all standpipe traps and drains for rodding.

P2706.2.1 Laundry tray connection. A laundry tray waste line is permitted to connect into a standpipe for the automatic clothes washer drain. The standpipes shall not be less than 30 inches (762 mm) as measured from the crown weir. The outlet of the laundry tray shall be a maximum horizontal distance of 30 inches (762 mm) from the standpipe trap.

P2714.1 Sink waste outlets. Sinks shall be provided with waste outlets not less than 1.5 inches (38 mm) in diameter. A strainer, crossbar or other device shall be provided to restrict the clear opening of the waste outlet.

P2715.1 Laundry tub waste outlet. Each compartment of a laundry tub shall be provided with a waste outlet not less than 1.5 inches (38 mm) in diameter and a strainer or crossbar to restrict the clear opening of the waste outlet.

P2903.9.3 Valve requirements. Valves serving individual fixtures, appliances, risers and branches shall be provided with access. An individual shutoff valve shall be required on the fixture supply pipe to each plumbing fixture other than bathtubs and showers.

P2904.5.1 Under concrete slabs. Inaccessible water distribution piping under slabs shall be copper water tube minimum Type M, brass, ductile iron pressure pipe, cross-linked polyethylene/aluminum/cross-linked polyethylene (PEX-AL-PEX) pressure pipe, chlorinated polyvinyl chloride (CPVC) or polybutylene (PB) or cross-linked polyethylene (PEX) plastic pipe or tubing, all to be installed with approved fittings or bends. The minimum pressure rating for plastic pipe or tubing installed under slabs shall be 100 psi at 180_F (689 kPa at 82_C).



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PLUMBING – CONTINUED

P3201.5 Prohibited trap designs. The following types of traps are prohibited:

1. Bell traps.
2. Separate fixture traps with interior partitions, except those lavatory traps made of plastic, stainless steel or other corrosion-resistant material.
3. S-traps
4. Drum traps.
5. Trap designs with moving parts.

ELECTRICAL

E3603.3 Laundry circuit. A minimum of one 20-ampere-rated branch circuit shall be provided for receptacles located in the laundry area and shall serve only receptacle outlets located in the laundry area.

E3603.4 Bathroom branch circuits. A minimum of one 20-ampere branch circuit shall be provided to supply the bathroom receptacle outlet(s). Such circuits shall have no other outlets.

TABLE E3605.5.3

OVERCURRENT PROTECTION RATING

COPPER Wire Size (AWG)

Maximum overcurrent protection-device ratings (amps)

14	15
12	20
10	30

E3702.3.2 Protection from physical damage. Where subject to physical damage, cables shall be protected by conduit, electrical metallic tubing, Schedule 80 PVC rigid non-metallic conduit, pipe, guard strips or other approved means. Where passing through a floor, the cable shall be enclosed in rigid metal conduit, intermediate metal conduit, electrical metallic tubing, Schedule 80 PVC rigid nonmetallic conduit or other metal pipe extending not less than 6 inches (152 mm) above the floor.

E3801.5 Appliance outlets. Appliance receptacle outlets installed for specific appliances, such as laundry equipment, shall be installed within 6 feet (1829 mm) of the intended location of the appliance.

E3802.7 Laundry, utility and bar sink receptacles. All 125-volt, single-phase, 15- and 20-ampere receptacles that are located within 6 feet (1829 mm) of the outside edge of a laundry, utility or wet bar sink shall have ground-fault circuit-interrupter protection for personnel. Receptacle outlets shall not be installed in a face-up position in the work surfaces or countertops.

E3803.2 Habitable rooms. At least one wall switch-controlled lighting outlet shall be installed in every habitable room and bathroom.



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ELECTRICAL – CONTINUED

E3805.1 Box, conduit body or fitting, where required. A box or conduit body shall be installed at each conductor splice point, outlet, switch point, junction point and pull point except as otherwise permitted in Sections E3805.1.1 through E3805.1.7. Fittings and connectors shall be used only with the specific wiring methods for which they are designed and listed.

E3805.3 Nonmetallic boxes. Nonmetallic boxes shall be used only with nonmetallic-sheathed cable, cabled wiring methods, flexible cords and nonmetallic raceways.

E3805.3.1 Nonmetallic-sheathed cable and nonmetallic boxes. Where nonmetallic-sheathed cable is used, the cable assembly, including the sheath, shall extend into the box not less than 1/4 inch (6.4 mm) through a nonmetallic-sheathed cable knockout opening.

E3805.12.2 Box fill calculations. The volumes in Section E3805.12.2.1 through Section E3805.12.2.5, as applicable, shall be added together. No allowance shall be required for small fittings such as locknuts and bushings.

E3805.12.2.1 Conductor fill. Each conductor that originates outside the box and terminates or is spliced within the box shall be counted once, and each conductor that passes through the box without splice or termination shall be counted once. The conductor fill, in cubic inches, shall be computed using Table E3805.12.2.1. A conductor, no part of which leaves the box, shall not be counted.

E3806.5 In wall or ceiling. In walls or ceilings of concrete, tile or other noncombustible material, boxes shall be installed so that the front edge of the box will not be set back from the finished surface more than 0.25 inch (6.4 mm). In walls and ceilings constructed of wood or other combustible material, outlet boxes shall be flush with the finished surface or project therefrom.

E3807.4 Unused openings. Unused openings in cabinets and panelboards shall be effectively closed to afford protection equivalent to that of the wall of the cabinet. Metal plugs or plates used with nonmetallic cabinets shall be recessed at least 0.25 inch (6.4 mm) from the outer surface.

E3808.1 Metal enclosures. Metal enclosures of conductors, devices and equipment shall be grounded.

E3808.15 Metal boxes. A connection shall be made between the one or more equipment grounding conductors and a metal box by means of a grounding screw that shall be used for no other purpose, or by means of a listed grounding device. Sheet-metal screws shall not be used to connect grounding conductors to boxes.

E3808.16 Nonmetallic boxes. One or more equipment grounding conductors brought into a nonmetallic outlet box shall be arranged to allow connection to fittings or devices installed in that box.



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BUILDING

R502.8 Drilling and notching. Structural floor members shall not be cut, bored or notched in excess of the limitations specified in this section. See Figure R502.8.

R502.8.1 Sawn lumber. Notches in solid lumber joists, rafters and beams shall not exceed one-sixth of the depth of the member, shall not be longer than one-third of the depth of the member and shall not be located in the middle one-third of the span. Notches at the ends of the member shall not exceed one-fourth the depth of the member. The tension side of members 4 inches (102 mm) or greater in nominal thickness shall not be notched except at the ends of the members. The diameter of holes bored or cut into members shall not exceed one-third the depth of the member. Holes shall not be closer than 2 inches (51 mm) to the top or bottom of the member, or to any other hole located in the member. Where the member is also notched, the hole shall not be closer than 2 inches (51 mm) to the notch.

R602.6 Drilling and notching studs. Any stud in an exterior wall or bearing partition may be cut or notched to a depth not exceeding 25 percent of its width. Studs in nonbearing partitions may be notched to a depth not to exceed 40 percent of a single stud width. Any stud may be bored or drilled, provided that the diameter of the resulting hole is no greater than 40 percent of the stud width, the edge of the hole is no closer than 5/8 inch (15.9 mm) to the edge of the stud, and the hole is not located in the same section as a cut or notch. See Figures R602.6(1) and R602.6(2).

Exceptions:

1. A stud may be bored to a diameter not exceeding 60 percent of its width, provided that such studs located in exterior walls or bearing partitions are doubled and that not more than two successive studs are bored.
2. Approved stud shoes may be used when installed in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendation.

R602.6.1 Drilling and notching of top plate. When piping or ductwork is placed in or partly in an exterior wall or interior load-bearing wall, necessitating cutting, drilling or notching of the top plate by more than 50 percent of its width, a galvanized metal tie of not less than 0.054 inches thick (1.37mm) (16ga) and 1 1/2 inches (38mm) wide shall be fastened to each plate across and to each side of the opening with not less than eight 16d nails at each side or equivalent. See Figure R602.6.1. **Exception:** When the entire side of the wall with the notch or cut is covered by wood structural panel sheathing.



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BUILDING – CONTINUED

R602.8 Fireblocking required. Fireblocking shall be provided to cut off all concealed draft openings (both vertical and horizontal) and to form an effective fire barrier between stories, and between a top story and the roof space. Fireblocking shall be provided in wood-frame construction in the following locations.

1. In concealed spaces of stud walls and partitions, including furred spaces and parallel rows of studs or staggered studs; as follows:
 - 1.1. Vertically at the ceiling and floor levels.
 - 1.2. Horizontally at intervals not exceeding 10 feet (3048 mm).
2. At all interconnections between concealed vertical and horizontal spaces such as occur at soffits, drop ceilings and cove ceilings.
3. In concealed spaces between stair stringers at the top and bottom of the run. Enclosed spaces under stairs shall comply with Section R311.2.2.
4. At openings around vents, pipes, and ducts at ceiling and floor level, with an approved material to resist the free passage of flame and products of combustion.
5. For the fireblocking of chimneys and fireplaces, see Section R1001.16.
6. Fireblocking of cornices of a two-family dwelling is required at the line of dwelling unit separation.

R602.8.1 Materials. Except as provided in Section R602.8, Item 4, fireblocking shall consist of 2-inch (51 mm) nominal lumber, or two thicknesses of 1-inch (25.4 mm) nominal lumber with broken lap joints, or one thickness of 23/32-inch (19.8 mm) wood structural panels with joints backed by 23/32-inch (19.8 mm) wood structural panels or one thickness of 3/4-inch (19.1 mm) particleboard with joints backed by 3/4-inch (19.1 mm) particleboard, 1/2-inch (12.7 mm) gypsum board, or 1/4-inch (6.4 mm) cement-based millboard. Batts or blankets of mineral wool or glass fiber or other approved materials installed in such a manner as to be securely retained in place shall be permitted as an acceptable fire block. Batts or blankets of mineral or glass fiber or other approved non-rigid materials shall be permitted for compliance with the 10 foot horizontal fireblocking in walls constructed using parallel rows of studs or staggered studs. Loose-fill insulation material shall not be used as a fire block unless specifically tested in the form and manner intended for use to demonstrate its ability to remain in place and to retard the spread of fire and hot gases.

R602.8.1.1 Unfaced fiberglass. Unfaced fiberglass batt insulation used as fireblocking shall fill the entire cross-section of the wall cavity to a minimum height of 16 inches (406mm) measured vertically. When piping, conduit or similar obstructions are encountered, the insulation shall be packed tightly around the obstruction.