CODE COUNCIL
TRAINING

2009
2012
2015

2015 IBC® Transition from the 2009 IBC®

Based on the International Building Code® (IBC®)

INTERNATIONAL
CODE COUNCIL®

2015 IBC Transition from the 2009 IBC

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Topic	2012	2015
Part 1 Administration (Chapters 1 and 2)		
Change of use or occupancy		**111.1** A change in a building's use, or portion of a building's use, with no change in its occupancy classification now requires that a new certification of occupancy be issued by the building code official.
Definitions	**202** For consistency and usability purposes, all definitions of terms specifically defined in the IBC have now been moved to a single location in Chapter 2	
Part 2 Building Planning (Chapters 3 through 6)		
Assembly rooms associated with Group E occupancies	**303.1.3** The allowance for a Group E classification of accessory assembly spaces in school buildings has been clarified so as to not confuse the provision with the mixed-occupancies requirements dealing with accessory occupancies as regulated by Section 508.2.	
Occupancy classification of food processing facilities and commercial kitchens	**303.3, 306.2** The appropriate occupancy classification of a commercial kitchen has been clarified based upon the kitchen's relationship, or lack of a relationship, to dining facilities.	
		304.1 Small (2,500 sq. ft. or less in area) food processing establishments and commercial kitchens not associated with dining facilities are now considered as Group B occupancy. **306.2** A classification of Group F-1 is now applied only to larger-sized (over 2,500 sq. ft. in area) food processing facilities and commercial kitchens not associated with dining facilities.
Training and skill development facilities		**304.1** The Group B classification for training and skill development uses has been clarified to address the ages of the occupants using the facility, the occupant load limitation where the facility is used for assembly purposes, and the types of permitted uses.
Facilities generating combustible dusts	**Table 307.1(1), Section 307.4** In the determination of occupancy classification for a facility where combustible dusts are anticipated, a technical report and opinion must now be provided to the building official that provides all necessary information for a qualified decision as to the potential combustible dusts hazards.	

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Topic	2012	2015
Part 2 Building Planning (Chapters 3 through 6), continued		
Definition of care facilities	**308.2, 202** A number of new definitions related to care facilities have been added and some existing definitions have been revised to provide clarity and consistency in application.	
Group I-1 occupancy classification		**308.3** The uses permitted in Group I-1 custodial care facility have been expanded to include care recipients who may need a limited degree of verbal or physical assistance if responding to a fire or other emergency situation.
Occupancy classification for medical care facilities. Group I-2 occupancy classification		**308.4** Two basic conditions of Group I-2 medical care uses that have previously been regulated together as a single category have been created, dividing the classification into short-term care facilitates, such as, hospitals, and long-term care facilities, such as nursing homes.
Group R-3 lodging house		**310.5** Lodging houses are now specifically defined in Chapter 2 and are typically permitted to be constructed in accordance with the *International Residential Code* (IRC) if they contain no more than five guest rooms.
Group R-4 occupancy classification	**310.6** The allowance for constructing Group R-4 supervised residential facilities under the IRC has been eliminated.	
		310.6 The uses permitted in a Group R-4 custodial care facility have been expanded to include care recipients who may need a limited degree of verbal or physical assistance while responding to a fire or other emergency situation.
Classification of accessory storage spaces		**311.1.1** Storage rooms less than 100 square feet in floor area are not to be classified as Group S, but rather as the same occupancy as the portion of the building to which they are accessory.
Open mall buildings	**402** A variety of changes have now been made to clarify the open mall building provisions that were originally developed for covered mall conditions.	

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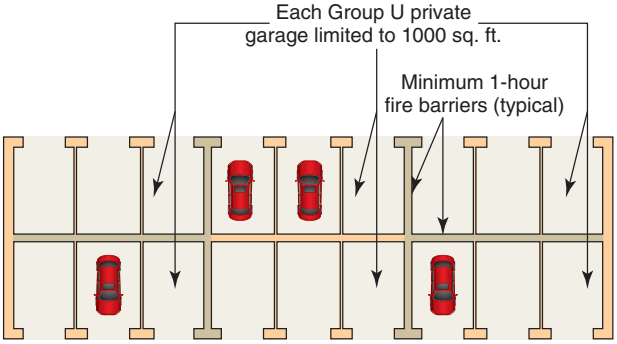
Topic	2012	2015
Part 2 Building Planning (Chapters 3 through 6), continued		
Private garages – Definition, floor-area limitation		**202** Motor vehicles stored in a "private garage" are now limited through a new definition to only those vehicles used by tenants of the building or buildings on the same premises as the garage.
		406.3.1 A group U private garage is now limited to a maximum floor area of 1000sf, however, multiple Group U private garages are permitted in the same building where they are compartmentalized by minimum 1-hour fire separations.



Example: If non-sprinklered building of Type VB construction, total allowable area limited to 5500 sq. ft. plus any applicable frontage increase

Topic	2012	2015
Public parking garage	**406.4** Those parking structures that fall outside of the scope of Section 406.3 regulating private parking garages are now identified as public parking garages.	
Group I-2 shared living spaces		**407.2.5** Shared living spaces, group meeting area, and multipurpose therapeutic spaces are now permitted to be open to corridors in Group I-2, Condition 1 nursing homes provided fire specific conditions are met.
Group I-2 cooking facilities		**407.2.6** A room or space containing a cooking facility with domestic cooking appliances is now permitted to be open to the corridor in a Group I-2, Condition 1 nursing home provided 13 specific conditions are met.
Maximum size of Group I-2 smoke compartments		**407.5** The maximum allowable smoke compartment size for Group I-2, Condition 2 hospitals and similar occupancies has been increased to 40,000 square feet.
Technical production areas	**410.6.3, 202** Outdated terminology, such as fly galleries, gridirons, and pin rails, has been replaced by the general and comprehensive term "technical production area" and the special means of egress provisions for such areas have all been relocated to Section 410.	

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Topic	2012	2015
Part 2 Building Planning (Chapters 3 through 6), continued		
Travel distance in aircraft manufacturing facilities		**412.7** The travel distance allowances for aircraft manufacturing facilities have been significantly increased based upon a combination of the manufacturing area's height and floor area.

TABLE 412.7 Aircraft Manufacturing Exit Access Travel Distance

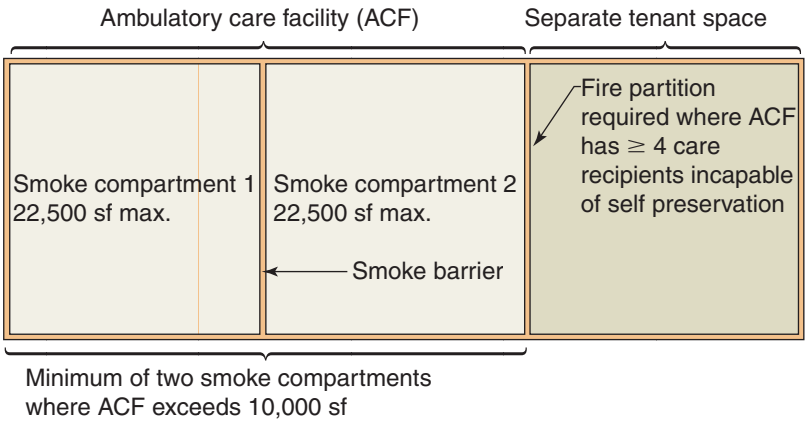
Height (feet)[b]	Manufacturing Area (sq. ft.)[a]					
	≥150,000	≥200,000	≥250,000	≥500,000	≥750,000	≥1,000,000
≥25	400	450	500	500	500	500
≥50	400	500	600	700	700	700
≥75	400	500	700	850	1,000	1,000
≥100	400	500	750	1,000	1,250	1,500

For SI: 1 foot = 304.3 mm

a. Contiguous floor area of the aircraft manufacturing facility having the indicated height.

b. Minimum height from finished floor to bottom of ceiling or roof slab or deck.

Topic	2012	2015
Ambulatory care facilities	**422** In a multi-tenant or mixed-occupancy building where there are uses present other than an ambulatory care facility, a fire-partition is now required between the care facility and those nonrelated spaces where the ambulatory care facility is intended to have at least four care recipients incapable of self-preservation at any one time.	



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Topic	2012	2015
Part 2 Building Planning (Chapters 3 through 6), continued		
Storm shelters serving critical emergency operations facilities and Group E occupancies		**423.3** The construction of complying storm shelters is now required in critical emergency operations facilities where such facilities are located in geographical areas where the shelter design wind speed for tornadoes is at its highest.
		423.4 Storm shelters are now required in Group E occupancies located in those areas of the U.S. where the shelter design wind speed for tornadoes is at its highest.
General building height and area limitations; Building height and number of stories, Building area		**503** The provisions regulating building height and area limitations have been extensively revised with no change in technical application in order to provide an increased degree of user-friendliness and technical consistency.
		Tables 504.3 & 504.4 In order to increase the degree of user-friendliness of the process by which the allowable building height provisions are determined, Table 503 has now been reformatted as Tables 504.3 (Allowable height in feet) and 504.4 (Allowable number of stories above grade plane), and any applicable sprinkler increase has been incorporated directly into the new tables.

TABLE 503 504.3[a] Allowable Building Heights ~~and Areas~~ in Feet Above Grade Plane

Occupancy Classification	See Footnotes	Type of Construction								
		Type I		Type II		Type III		Type IV	Type V	
		A	B	A	B	A	B	HT	A	B
A,B,E,F,M,S,U	NS[b]	UL	160	65	55	65	55	65	50	40
	S	UL	180	85	75	85	75	85	70	60
H-1, H-2, H-3, H-5	NS[c,d]	UL	160	65	55	65	55	65	50	40
	S									

Note: UL = Unlimited; NS = Buildings not equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system; S = Buildings equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1

(Only a portion of Table 504.3 is shown above.)

TABLE 503 504.4[a,b] Allowable ~~Building Heights and Areas~~ Number of Stories Above Grade Plane

Occupancy Classification	See Foot-Notes	Type of Construction								
		Type I		Type II		Type III		Type IV	Type V	
		A	B	A	B	A	B	HT	A	B
A-1	NS	UL	5	3	2	3	2	3	2	1
	S	UL	6	4	3	4	3	4	3	2
A-2	NS	UL	11	3	2	3	2	3	2	1
	S	UL	12	4	3	4	3	4	3	2
A-3	NS	UL	11	3	2	3	2	3	2	1
	S	UL	12	4	3	4	3	4	3	2

Note: UL = Unlimited; NS = Buildings not equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system; S = Buildings equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1

(Only a portion of Table 504.4 is shown above.)

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Topic	2012	2015
Part 2 Building Planning (Chapters 3 through 6), continued		
General building height and area limitations; Building height and number of stories, Building area, *Continued*		**Table 506.2** In order to increase the degree of user-friendliness of the process by which the allowable building area provisions are determined, Table 503 has been reformatted as new Table 506.2 (allowable area factor in square feet), and any applicable sprinkler increase has been incorporated directly into the new table.

TABLE 503 506.2[a,b] Allowable ~~Building Heights and~~ Areas Factor (A_I = NS, S1, S13R or SM, as applicable) in Square Feet

Occupancy Classification	See Footnotes	Type of Construction								
		Type I		Type II		Type III		Type IV	Type V	
		A	B	A	B	A	B	HT	A	B
A-1	NS	UL	UL	15,500	8,500	14,000	8,500	15,000	11,500	5,500
	S1	UL	UL	62,000	34,000	56,000	34,000	60,000	46,000	22,000
	SM	UL	UL	46,500	25,500	42,000	25,500	45,000	34,500	16,500
A-2	NS	UL	UL	15,500	9,500	14,000	9,500	15,000	11,500	6,000
	S1	UL	UL	62,000	38,000	56,000	38,000	60,000	46,000	24,000
	SM	UL	UL	46,500	28,500	42,000	28,500	45,000	34,500	18,000
A-3	NS	UL	UL	15,500	9,500	14,000	9,500	15,000	11,500	6,000
	S1	UL	UL	62,000	38,000	56,000	38,000	60,000	46,000	24,000
	SM	UL	UL	46,500	28,500	42,000	28,500	45,000	34,500	18,000

(Only a portion of Table 506.2 is shown above.)

Topic	2012	2015
Mezzanine – Means of egress and Openness	**505.2.2** The specific provisions for mezzanine means of egress have been deleted and replaced with a general reference to Chapter 10.	
		505.2.3 Direct access to at least one exit at the mezzanine level is no longer required for those enclosed mezzanines regulated by Exception 2 of Section 505.2.3.
Unlimited area buildings – Accessory occupancies; Basements in unlimited area buildings	**507.1.1 (507.1)** The allowance for occupancy groups not specifically scoped under the unlimited area building provisions of Section 507 to be located in such buildings under accessory occupancies provisions of Section 508.2 is now contained within the code text.	
		507.1 The allowance of a single-story basement in unlimited area buildings have now been clarified.
Unlimited area buildings – Group H occupancies; Group H-5 in unlimited area buildings	**507.8** The limitations placed on Group H occupancies permitted in unlimited area building have been clarified and reformatted to aid in their consistent application.	
		507.9 Group H-5 buildings are now permitted to be unlimited in area under the special provisions of Section 507.

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Topic	2012	2015
Part 2 Building Planning (Chapters 3 through 6), continued		
Incidental uses – General provisions; Separation and Protection; Rooms or areas; Fire protection from incidental uses	**509.1** The concept of incidental uses has been clarified by eliminating the previous relationship with the mixed-occupancy provisions.	
	509.4 An automatic sprinkler system is now the only fire-extinguishing system specifically permitted as a means of providing any fire protection required for incidental use rooms and area.	
	Table 509 The list of incidental uses now includes waste and linen collection rooms in Group B ambulatory care facilities and such rooms must be separated from the remainder of the building by minimum 1-hour fire-resistance-rated fire barriers and/or horizontal assemblies.	
		Table 509 A more detailed analysis of various support spaces within a healthcare or ambulatory care facility is now possible due to modifications to Table 509 regulating incidental uses

INCIDENTAL USES SPECIFIC TO AMBULATORY CARE FACILITIES		
Room or Area	2015 IBC	2012 IBC
Laboratories not classified as Group H occupancies	1-hour separation or provide automatic sprinkler system	Not considered as an incidental use
Waste and linen collection rooms	1-hour separation for rooms where containers have an aggregate volume of 10 cubic feet or more	1-hour regardless of amount of collection
Storage rooms more than 100 square feet in floor area	1-hour separation	Not considered as an incidental use

INCIDENTAL USES SPECIFIC TO GROUP I-2 OCCUPANCIES		
Room or Area	2015 IBC	2012 IBC
Laboratories not classified as Group H occupancies	1-hour separation *and* provide automatic sprinkler system	1-hour separation *or* provide automatic sprinkler system
Laundry rooms	1-hour separation where more than 100 square feet in floor area	1-hour separation *or* provide automatic sprinkler system where more than 100 square feet in floor area
Patient rooms equipped with padded surfaces	1-hour separation	Not considered as an incidental use
Physical plant maintenance shops	1-hour separation	Not considered as an incidental use
Waste and linen collection rooms	1-hour for rooms where containers have an aggregate volume of 10 cubic feet or more	1-hour regardless of amount of collection
Storage rooms more than 100 square feet in floor area	1-hour separation	Not considered as an incidental use

Topic	2012	2015
Horizontal building separation		**510.2** In the special provisions of Section 510.2 addressing pedestal buildings, there is no longer a limit of one story above grade plane for that portion of the structure that occurs below the 3-hour horizontal separation.

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Topic	2012	2015
Part 3 Fire Protection (Chapters 7 - 9)		
Topic	**2012**	**2015**
Identification of fire and smoke separation walls	**703.7** The size & location of identifying markings required on vertical fire assembly's above-ceiling spaces have been modified to increase the potential for such markings to be seen.	
Projections at exterior walls		**705.2** The minimum required separation between the leading edge of a projection and the line used to determine the fire separation distance has been modified in a manner that provides for a significant increase in the separation required. Table 705.2 is modified.

TABLE 705.2 Minimum Distance of Projection

Fire Separation Distance (FSD)	Minimum Distance from Line Used to Determine FSD
0 feet to ~~less than~~ 2 feet	Projections not permitted
Greater than 2 feet to ~~less than 5 feet~~ 3 feet	24 inches
~~5 feet or~~ Greater than 3 feet to less than 30 feet	~~40 inches~~ 24 inches plus 8 inches for every foot of FSD beyond 3 feet or fraction thereof
30 feet or greater	20 feet

For SI: 1 foot = 304.8 mm; 1 inch = 25.4 mm.

Topic	2012	2015
Combustible projections		**705.2.3** The provisions regulating combustible projections adjacent to an interior lot line or other line used to determine the fire separation distance have been modified to provide a simple and consistent approach that is less restrictive than previously determined.
Buildings on the same lot		**705.3** Opening are permitted through adjacent exterior walls of a Group S-2 parking garage and a Group R-2 building on the same lot where such buildings are regulated as two buildings on the same lot and the fire separation distance is zero.

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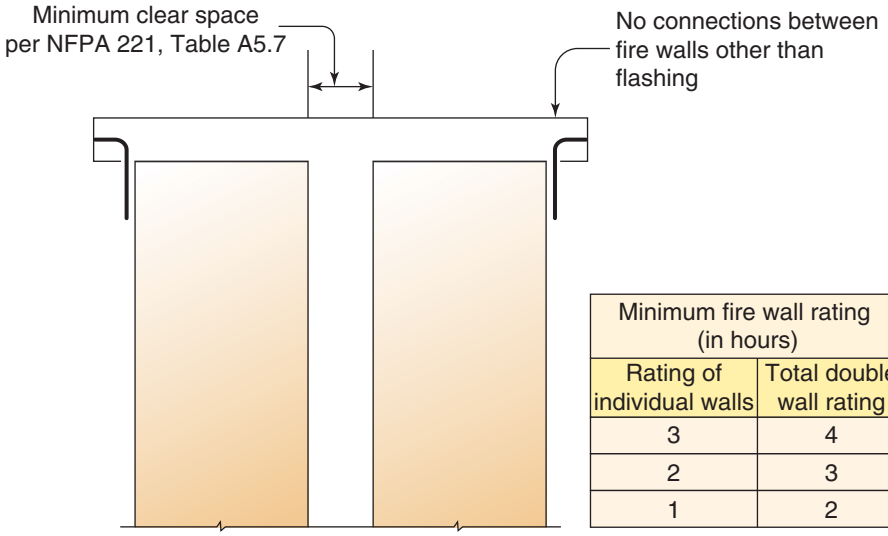
Topic	2012	2015
Part 3 Fire Protection (Chapters 7 - 9), Continued		
Structural element bracing of exterior walls		**705.6** Interior structural elements, such as floor or roof elements, that brace exterior walls are no longer required to be regulated for fire resistance due to the exterior wall's ratings regardless of the building's proximity to a lot line.
Structural stability of fire walls	**706.2** To satisfy the intended objective of structural stability the use of a double fire wall complying with NFPA 221 is permitted as an alternative to a single fire wall.	**706.2** The reference to NFPA 221 for fire wall design and construction has been expanded to permit the use of the "tied" and "cantilevered" options addressed in the standard.



Minimum fire wall rating (in hours)	
Rating of individual walls	Total double wall rating
3	4
2	3
1	2

Double fire wall

Topic	2012	2015
Intersections of fire barriers at roof assemblies	**707.8, 707.9** The void at the intersection between a fire barrier and a nonfire-resistance rated roof assembly now need only to be protected with an approved material rather than a fire-resistant joint system.	
Horizontal assemblies and vertical openings	**712** Significant reformatting in Chapter 7 now places emphasis on the presence of vertical openings rather than on shaft enclosures, recognizing the use of shaft enclosures is just one of many acceptable protective measures that can be utilized to address the hazards related to vertical openings.	**711, 712** The reorganization of Section 711 and 712 has been continued such that Section 711 now contains only the construction requirements for floor and roof assemblies, and Section 712 only contains the requirements related to the protection of vertical openings.
Floor penetration of horizontal assembly	**714.4.1.2 (714.4.1.1.2) Exception 2** An approved through-penetration fire-stop system used to protect floor penetrations of horizontal assemblies due to the presence of floor, tub, & shower drains is no longer required to have a T rating.	

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Topic	2012	2015
Part 3 Fire Protection (Chapters 7 - 9), Continued		
Membrane penetration		**714.4.2** The ceiling of a 1-hour or 2-hour floor/ceiling or roof/ceiling assembly is permitted to be interrupted by double wood top plate of a wall. The wall interrupting the ceiling membrane of the horizontal assembly must be sheathed only with Type X gypsum wallboard. The wall will not require a fire-resistance rating unless needed due to some other code requirement. Items penetrating the top plates must be protected.
L ratings	**714.4.4 (714.5), 715.6, 202** An "L" rating identifying the air leakage rate - as defined in Chapter 2 – is now mandated for penetration firestop systems and fire-resistant joint systems that are utilized in smoke barrier construction.	
Marking of fire-rated glazing assemblies, Opening protection ratings and markings, Fire-protection-rated glazing	**716.3, 202** Table 716.3 has been added to define and relate the various test standards for fire-rated glazing, now defined in Chapter 2 to the designations used to mark such glazing.	
	Table 716.5 The information previously available in Table 716.5 (715.4 in 2009) addressing the minimum required fire-protection ratings of fire door and fire shutter assemblies has been extensively expanded to also include the maximum size and marking requirements for door vision panels and the minimum assembly rating and glazing marking requirements for sidelights and transoms.	

TABLE ~~715.4~~ 716.5 ~~Fire Door and Fire Shutter Fire Protection Ratings~~
Opening Fire-Protection Assemblies, Ratings, and Markings

Type of Assembly	Required Wall Assembly Rating (Hours)	Minimum Fire Door and Fire Shutter Assembly Rating (Hours)	Door Vision Panel Size	Fire-Rated Glazing Marking Door Vision Panel[~~e~~]	Minimum Sidelight/ Transom Assembly Rating (Hours)		Fire-Rated Glazing Marking Sidelite/ Transom Panel	
					Fire protection	Fire resistance	Fire protection	Fire resistance
Fire walls and fire barriers having a required fire-resistance rating greater than 1 hour	4	3	Not Permitted	Not Permitted	Not Permitted	4	Not Permitted	W-240
	3	3[a]	Not Permitted	Not Permitted	Not Permitted	3	Not Permitted	W-180
	2	1½	100 sq. in.[c]	≤100 in.^{2} = D-H--90 >100 in.^{2} = D-H-W-90 ≤100 in.^{2} = D-H-90	Not Permitted	2	Not Permitted	W-120
	1½	1½	100 sq. in.[c]	>100 in.^{2} = D-H-W-90 ≤100 in.^{2} = D-H-90	Not Permitted	1½	Not Permitted	W-90
Shaft, exit enclosures, and exit passageway walls	2	1½	100 in.^{2} [c,d]	≤100 in.^{2} = D-H -T-or D-H-T-W-90	Not Permitted	2	Not Permitted	W-120

continued

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Table 716.5 continued

Type of Assembly	Required Wall Assembly Rating (Hours)	Minimum Fire Door and Fire Shutter Assembly Rating (Hours)	Door Vision Panel Size	Fire-Rated Glazing Marking Door Vision Panel[e]	Minimum Sidelight/ Transom Assembly Rating (Hours)		Fire-Rated Glazing Marking Sidelite/ Transom Panel	
					Fire protection	Fire resistance	Fire protection	Fire resistance
Fire barriers having a required fire-resistance rating of 1 hour: Enclosures for shafts, eixt access stairways, exit access ramps, interior exit stairways, interior exit ramps, and exit passageway walls	1	1	100 in.^{2} [c,d]	≤100 in.^{2} = D-H-60 >100 in.^{2} = D-H-T-60 or D-H-T-W-60	Not Permitted	1	Not Permitted	W-60
					Fire protection			
Other fire barriers	1	¾	Maximum size tested	D-H-NT-45	¾		D-H-NT-45	
	1	⅓[b]	Maximum size tested	D-20	¾[b]		D-H-OH-45	
Fire partitions Corridor walls	0.5	⅓[b]	Maximum size tested	D-20	½		D-H-OH-20	
Other fire partitions	1	¾	Maximum size tested	D-H-45	¾		D-H-45	
	0.5	⅓	Maximum size tested	D-H-20	½		D-H-20	
					Fire protection	Fire resistance	Fire protection	Fire resistance
Exterior walls	3	1½	100 in.^{2} [c]	≤100 in.^{2} = D-H-90 >100 in.^{2} = D-H-W-90	Not Permitted	3	Not Permitted	W-180
	2	1½	100 in.^{2} [c]	≤100 in.^{2} = D-H-90 >100 in.^{2} = D-H-W-90	Not Permitted	2	Not Permitted	W-120
					Fire protection			
	1	¾	Maximum size tested	D-H-45	¾		D-H-45	
					Fire protection			
Smoke barriers	1	⅓[b]	Maximum size tested	D-20	¾		D-H-OH-45	

a. Two doors, each with a fire protection rating of 1-½ hours, installed on opposite sides of the same opening in a fire wall, shall be deemed equivalent in fire protection rating to one 3-hour fire door.
b. For testing requirements, see Section 716.6.3.
c. Fire-resistance-rated glazing tested to ASTM E 119 per Section 716.2 shall be permitted, in the maximum size tested.
d. Except where the building is equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler and the fire-rated glazing meets the criteria established in Section 716.5.5.
e. Under the column heading "Fire-Rated Glazing Marking Door Vision Panel," W refers to the fire-resistance rating of the glazing, not the frame.

Topic	2012	2015
Part 3 Fire Protection (Chapters 7 - 9), Continued		
	Table 716.6 In addition to fire window assembly fire protection ratings, Table 716.6 now identifies the markings required on the fire-rated glazing for acceptance in specified applications.	
Wired glass in fire window assemblies	**716.6.4 (715.5.4 and 715.5.5 in 2009)** The allowance for the use of wired glass without compliance with the appropriate test standards has been deleted.	

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Topic	2012	2015
Part 3 Fire Protection (Chapters 7 - 9), Continued		
Corridor dampers		**717.3, 717.5** Where a duct penetration occurs in the ceiling of a fire-resistance-rated corridor where the lid of the corridor is constructed using a corridor wall placed horizontally, a corridor damper is now specifically mandated.
Sprinkler systems – Assembly occupancies on roofs		**903.2.1.6** An automatic sprinkler system is now required to be installed in a building when the roof is used for a Group A-2 assembly occupancy with an occupant load exceeding 100, as well as other Group A occupancies where the occupant load exceeds 300.
Multiple fire areas		**903.2.1.7** Where small Group A fire areas share a common means of egress, the occupant load of the spaces must now be added together to determine if a sprinkler system is required.
Sprinklers systems – Group R occupancies		**903.2.8** Sprinkler requirements for Group R-4 occupancies are now dependent on the capabilities of the occupants. In buildings where occupants required limited assistance when responding to an emergency condition, additional sprinkler protection is required for attic space.
Furniture storage and display in Group F-1, M and S-1 occupancies	**903.2.4, 903.2.7, 903.2.9** Automatic sprinkler systems are now required in occupancies where upholstered furniture or mattresses are manufactured, stored, or displayed.	
Sprinkler protection for basements	**903.2.11.1.3** Basements provided with walls, partitions, or fixtures that can obstruct water from hose streams now require automatic sprinkler protection.	
Open-ended corridors		**903.3.1.2.2** Where an NFPA 13R sprinkler system is installed, the sprinkler protection must now be extended to any open-ended corridors and associated exterior stairways, clarifying that an open breezeway is considered as an interior portion of the building and not an exterior location for the application of sprinkler requirements.
Actuation of multiple fire-extinguishing systems	**904.3.2** When two or more alternative automatic fire- extinguishing systems are required to protect a hazard, all of the systems must now be designed to simultaneously operate.	
Portable fire extinguishers in Group R-2 occupancies	**906.1** Portable fire extinguishers are no longer required in many public and common areas of Group R-2 occupancies provided a complying extinguisher is provided within each individual dwelling unit.	
Fire alarm systems in Group A occupancies	**907.2.1** Requirements for a fire alarm system in a building housing two or more Group A occupancies are now based on whether or not the occupancies are in separate fire areas.	

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Topic	2012	2015
Part 3 Fire Protection (Chapters 7 - 9), Continued		
Emergency voice/alarm communication captions	**907.2.1.2** Mass notification fire alarm signals in large stadiums, arenas, and grandstands now require captioned messages.	
Group E fire alarms		**907.2.3** The threshold for alarm systems in Group E occupancies has been increased such that a manual fire alarm is required where the occupant load exceeds 50, and an emergency voice/alarm communication (EVAC) system must only be provided for the occupant load exceeds 100. (2012 had dropped thresholds to 30)
Smoke detection and alarm systems in Group R-2 college buildings	**907.2.9.3** A smoke detection system, tied into the occupant notification system, is now required in certain public and common spaces of Group R-2 college and university buildings, and the required smoke alarms within individual dwelling and sleeping units must be interconnected with the building's fire alarm and detection system.	**907.2.3** The scope of the fire alarm provisions for Group R-2 college and university buildings has been revised to apply to facilities "operated by" the college or university whether owned by the school or not.
Smoke alarms near cooking appliances and bathrooms		**907.2.11.3, 903.2.11.4** Requirements from the NFPA 72 standard addressing the installation of smoke alarms near cooking appliances and bathrooms have been introduced to the IBC in order to provide direct guidance on the placement of smoke alarms.
Wireless interconnection of smoke alarms	**907.2.11.5 (907.2.11.3)** The smoke alarm interconnection requirements are now applicable to Group I-1 occupancies and include allowances for use of wireless alarms.	
Smoke and heat removal		**910** The format and technical requirements for smoke and heat removal systems have been revised, including a new allowance permitting a mechanical smoke removal system as an alternative to smoke and heat vents.
Carbon monoxide alarms	**915 (908.7)** In new and existing buildings, carbon monoxide (CO) alarms are now required in Group R and I occupancies with fuel-burning appliances or attached garages.	**915** The carbon monoxide (CO) alarm provisions have been relocated, reformatted and revised; the scope has been modified to exclude Group I-3 occupancies while adding Group E occupancies.

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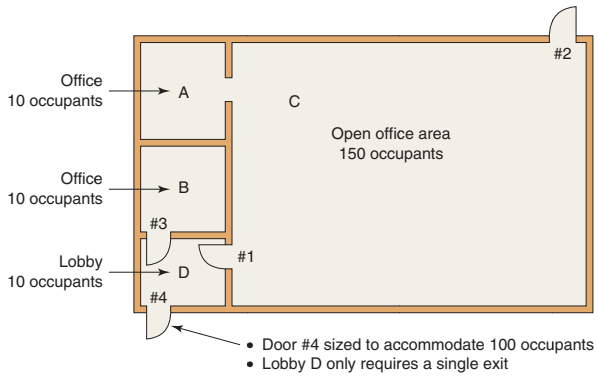
Topic	2012	2015
Part 4 Means of Egress (Chapter 10)		
Cumulative occupant load		**1004.1.1** The determination of the cumulative design occupant load for intervening spaces, adjacent levels and adjacent stories has been clarified.



Topic	2012	2015
Design occupant load – Areas without fixed seating	**1004.1.2, Table 1004.1.2** An occupant load factor for museums and exhibit galleries has been established at 30 square feet per occupant.	

TABLE ~~1004.1.1~~ 1004.1.2 Maximum Floor Area Allowances per Occupant

Function of Space	Occupant Load Factor[a] ~~Floor Area In Sq. Ft. Per Occupant~~
Assembly	
Gaming floors (keno, slots, etc.)	11 gross
Exhibit gallery and museum	30 net
Mall buildings—covered and open	See Section 402.4.1

For SI: 1 square foot = 0.0929 m^2.
a. Floor area in square feet per occupant.

Note: (no changes to remainder of table)

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Topic	2012	2015
Occupant load factors		**Table 1004.1.2** The mercantile occupant load factor has been revised such that a single factor is now applicable regardless of the story on which the mercantile use is located.

TABLE 1004.1.2 Maximum Floor Area Allowances per Occupant

Function of Space	Occupant Load Factor[a]
Mercantile	60 gross
~~Areas on other floors~~	~~60 gross~~
~~Basement and grade floor areas~~	~~30 gross~~
Storage, stock, shipping areas	300 gross

For SI: 1 square foot = 0.0929 m^2.
a. Floor area in square feet per occupant.
(*Remaining portions of table not shown are unchanged.*)

Topic	2012	2015
Part 4 Means of Egress (Chapter 10). Continued		
Means of egress capacity determination	**1005** Reduced exit width factors have been established for sprinklered building provided with an emergency voice/alarm communication (EVAC) system, and the exit width/capacity requirements are now presented in a more logical and organized layout.	
Means of egress, Numbers of exits and exit access doorways		**1006, 1007** Provisions addressing the minimum required number of means of egress and their arrangement for rooms and space as well as stories have been reformatted and relocated. The means of egress requirements for rooms and spaces, along with those for stories, have been consolidated in Chapter 10. Section 1006 will address the number of means of egress required and Section 1007 will address the egress configuration (arrangement/separation).
Exits from dwelling units	**Table 1006.3.2 (1021.2(1))** A new section clarifies when a single exit is permitted within or from an individual dwelling unit. Changes to Sec. 1021.2 and the tables will also provide a second option for compliance.	**Note:** Tables 1021.2(1) and 1021.2(2) in the 2012 code are now Tables 1006.3.2(1) and 1006.3.2(2) in 2015 code due to reformatting of Chapter 10
Spaces with one exit or exit access doorway		**Table 1006.2.1** A new table combines the occupant load requirements from 2012 IBC Table 1015.1 along with the provisions for common path of egress travel from Section 1014.3 into a single location. *See next page for Table 1006.2.1.*

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TABLE 1006.2.1 Spaces with One Exit or Exit Access Doorway

Occupancy	Maximum Occupant Load of Space	Maximum Common Path of Egress Travel Distance (feet)		
		Without Sprinkler System (feet)		With Sprinkler System (feet)
		Occupant Load		
		OL ≤ 30	OL > 30	
A[c], E, M	49	75	75	75[a]
B	49	100	75	100[a]
F	49	75	75	100[a]
H-1, H-2, H-3	3	NP	NP	25[b]
H-4, H-5	10	NP	NP	75[b]
I-1, I-2[d], I-4	10	NP	NP	75[a]
I-3	10	NP~~100~~	NP~~100~~	100[a]
R-1	10	NP~~75~~	NP~~75~~	75[a]
R-2	10	NP~~75~~	NP~~75~~	125[a]
R-3[e]	10	NP~~75~~	NP~~75~~	125[a]
R-4[e]	10	75	75	125[a]
S[f]	29	100	75	100[a]
U	49	100	75	75[a]

For SI: 1 foot = 304.8 mm.

NP = Not Permitted

a. Buildings equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2. See Section 903 for occupancies where automatic sprinkler systems are permitted in accordance with Section 903.3.1.2.

b. Group H occupancies equipped throughout with an *automatic sprinkler system* in accordance with Section 903.2.5.

c. For a room or space used for assembly purposes having fixed seating, see Section ~~1028.3~~ 1029.8.

d. For the travel distance limitations in Group I-2, see Section 407.4.

e. The length of common path of egress travel distance in a Group R-3 occupancy located in a mixed occupancy building or within a Group R-3 or R-4 congregate living facility.

f. The length of common path of egress travel distance in a Group S-2 open parking garage shall be not more than 100 feet.

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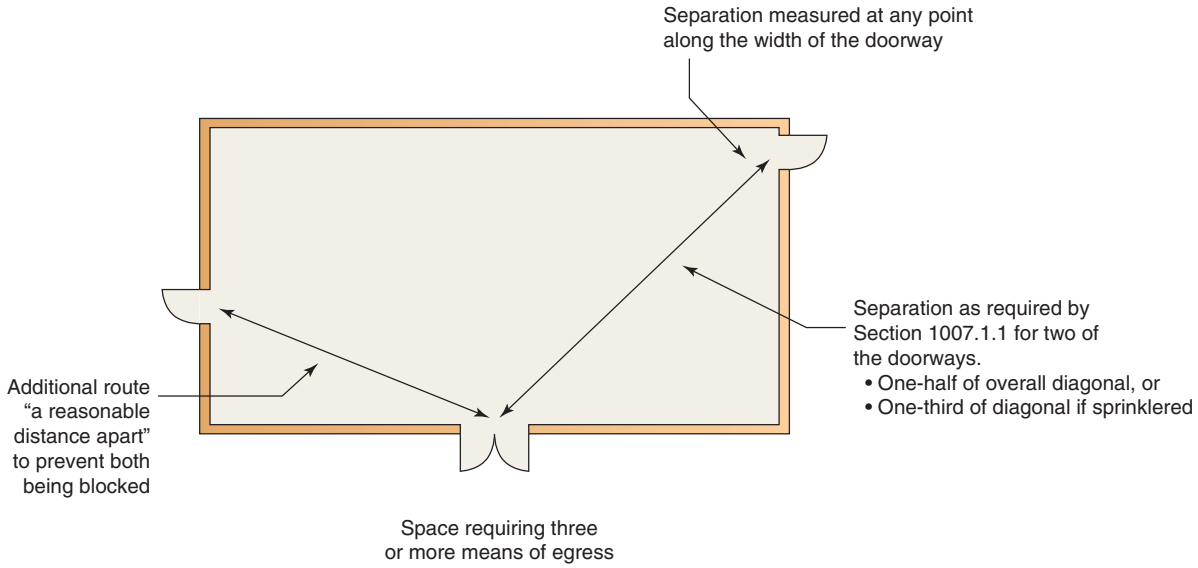
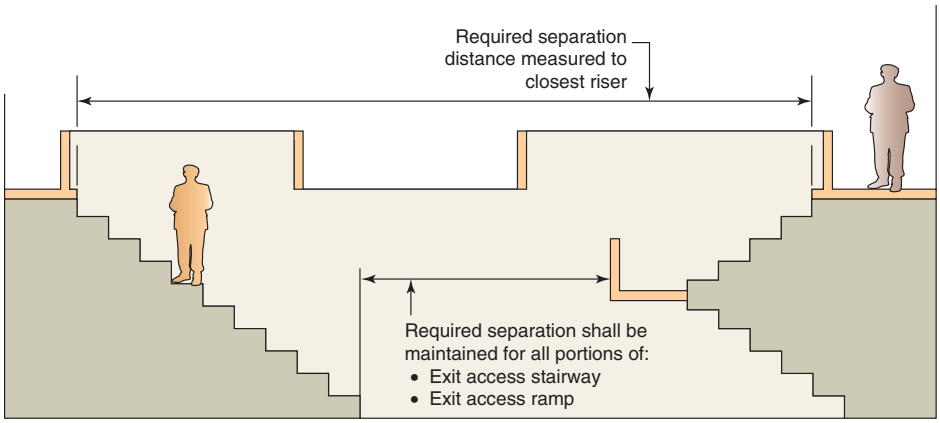
Topic	2012	2015
Part 4 Means of Egress (Chapter 10). Continued		
Exit and exit access doorway configuration		**1007.1** Specific information is now provided regarding the point where exit separation is to be measured. In addition, where three or more means of egress are required, performance language has been included to ensure the egress paths are adequately separated.





Topic	2012	2015
Door operations – Locking systems		**1010.1.9** Numerous revisions throughout the locking provisions now help clarify requirements and their application through the use of consistent terminology.
Application of stairway provisions	**1011.1 (1009.1)** Stairway provisions have been clarified to apply to any stairway serving occupied portions of a building, including "convenience" stairways that are not a portion of a required means of egress or required means of egress stairways.	

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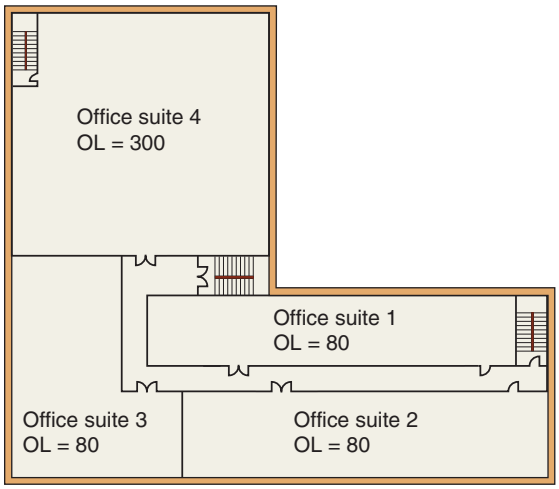
Topic	2012	2015
Part 4 Means of Egress (Chapter 10). Continued		
Floor level exit signs in Group R-1	**1013.2 (1011.2)** Where general-use exit signs are required in R-1 occupancies, low-level exit signs must also be provided in the means of egress serving the guest rooms.	
Guards at operable windows	**1015.1 (1013.1, 1013.8)** The guard requirements for operable windows having a sill height more than 72 inches above the finished grade have been relocated from Chapter 14 to the general guard provisions of Chapter 10 and the minimum window sill height at which a guard is not required has been increased from 24 inches to 36 inches.	
Egress through intervening spaces		**1016.2** A means of egress is now permitted through an elevator lobby provided access to at least one exit is available without passing through the lobby.
Travel distance increase for Groups F-1 and S-1		**1017.2.2** An increased exit access travel distance is now permitted for Groups F-1 and S-1 occupancies where specific requirements are met
Aisles in Groups B and M		**1018.3** The required width of aisles in Groups B and M occupancies is now consistent with the widths required for corridors and is no longer limited only to the capacity based on the occupant load served.
Exit access stairways and ramps	**1019 (1009, 1010)** Revisions have been made throughout the code to coordinate the provisions for unenclosed interior stairways and ramps (exit access stairways and ramps) that can be used as a portion of the means of egress. Relies on the distinction of "exit access" stair versus "exit" stair.	



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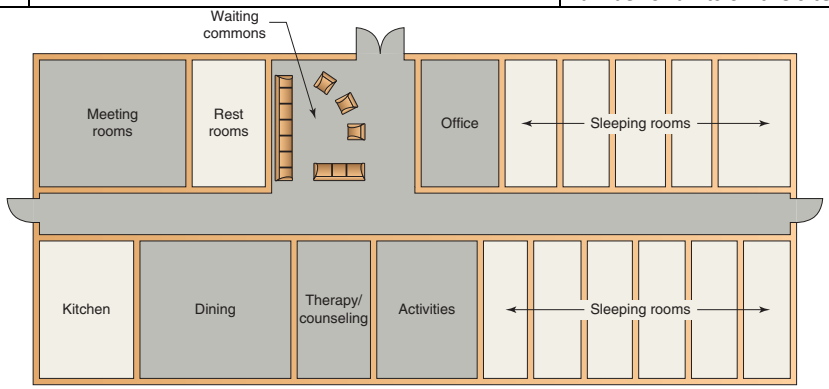
Topic	2012	2015
Part 4 Means of Egress (Chapter 10). Continued		
Enclosure penetrations of interior exit stairways	**1023.5 (1022.5)** Penetrations of the outside membrane of a fire barrier utilized to enclose an interior exit stair or ramp are now permitted provided the penetration is properly protected.	
Separation of spaces under grandstands and bleachers	**1029.1.1.1 (1028.1.1.1)** Spaces beneath grandstands and bleachers are now required to be adequately separated to protect the assembly seating area form any potential hazards.	
Stepped aisle construction tolerances		**1029.13.2.2.1** The variation allowed between adjacent risers within a stepped aisle is now limited.
Part 5 Accessibility (Chapter 11)		
Areas in places of religious worship		**1103.2.8** Small areas used for religious ceremonies are now exempt from the access requirements.
Employee work areas	**1104.3.1** Where an employee work area is less than 1,000 square feet in floor area, the common use circulation path need not meet the accessible route requirements.	
Multistory buildings and facilities, Accessible spaces and routes		**1104.4** A distinction has been made between the requirements for access within a story and those with greater level changes, such as between stories or mezzanines.
		1107.3, 1107.4 The provisions for connecting all spaces within a building have been modified to clearly identify the distinction for those with a change of elevation between stories or mezzanines.
Group R – Accessible units		**1107.6.1.1** The method by which multiple buildings on a site are reviewed when determining the required number of Accessible units has been revised to consider building size in addition to the total number of units on the site.



Accessible Units in Group I-1 and R-4 Occupancies			
I-1 Occupancies		R-4 Occupancies	
Condition 1	Condition 2	Condition 1	Condition 2
≥4% but not less than 1	≥10% but not less than 1	At least 1	At least 2 units*

* Bedrooms within Group R-4 facilities shall be counted as sleeping units for the purpose of determining the number of units.

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Topic	2012	2015
Part 5 Accessibility (Chapter 11)		
Captioning of public address announcements	**1108.2.7.3** The captioning of audible public announcements is now only required for assembly spaces having a public address system and 15,000 or more seats.	
Accessible children's facilities	**1109.2, 1109.5** Toilet facilities and drinking fountains "primarily for children's use" may now be installed at a lower height than generally permitted for accessible elements and considered as the required accessible elements.	
Recreational facilities		**1110** More detailed scoping requirements for recreational facilities have been included within the new Section 1110 to coordinate with the ADA and provide the scoping for technical requirements found within Chapter 11 of the A 117.1 standard.
Part 6 Building Envelope, Structural Systems, and Construction Materials (Chapters 12 through 26)		
Toilet and bathroom requirements	**1210** The water closet compartment and urinal partition requirements have been from Chapter 29 to Section 1210.	
Vapor retarders		**1405.3** The required types and locations appropriate for each class of vapor retarder have been revised to also indicate where certain vapor retarders are not allowed to be installed.
Roof gardens and landscaped roofs, Roof loads	**1507.16** The IBC now provides a reference to a new IFC provisions on roof gardens and landscaped roofs as a means of controlling the potential hazards these combustible materials on the roof could create.	
Photovoltaic systems	**1507.17, 3111, 202** Photovoltaic elements (modules/shingles or systems) must now meet the general code requirements for roofing materials and roof top structures.	
Rooftop structures	**1510 (1509), 202** In addition to several technical changes, the provisions addressing rooftop structures have been reformatted to better organize and clarify the requirements.	
Construction documents, Special loads		**1603** Two additional items related to snow load drifting are now required to be identified on the construction documents.
		1603.1.8 The dead load of any rooftop-mounted photovoltaic (PV) solar panels must now be identified on the construction documents.

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Topic	2012	2015
Part 6 Building Envelope, Structural Systems, and Construction Materials (Chapters 12 through 26), Continued		
Risk category	**1604.5** The term "Occupancy category" has been changed to "risk category" to better reflect the intended meaning and to coordinate with the terminology used in ASCE 7-10.	
		1604.5 In the application of assigning the appropriate risk category for a structure, Section 1604.5 has been revised to clarify that where standards referred to ASCE 7 Table 1.5-1, IBC Table 1604.5 should be used instead. In addition, descriptions for Risk Category III structures have been revised to include occupancy classifications to help clarify the intent.
Minimum Live loads	**1607.1** The live loads established in IBC Section 1607 and Table 1607.1 have been modified and updated in order to coordinate with the live loads of Chapter 4 and Table 4-1 in ASCE 7-10.	

2012 CODE:

TABLE 1607.1 Minimum Uniformly Distributed Live Loads, L_o, and Minimum Concentrated Live Loads[g]

Occupancy or Use	Uniform (psf)	Concentrated (lb)
3. Armories and drill rooms	150[m]	—
4. Assembly areas ~~and theaters~~		
Fixed seats (fastened to floor)	60[m]	
Follow spot, projections, and control rooms	50	
Lobbies	100[m]	
Movable seats	100[m]	—
Stages ~~and~~ floors	~~125~~ 150[m]	
Platforms (assembly)	~~125~~ 100	
Other assembly areas	100[m]	
5. Balconies ~~(exterior)~~ and decks[h]	Same as occupancy served	
~~6. Bowling alleys~~	~~75~~	—
~~7.~~ 6. Catwalks	40	300
~~9.~~ 8. Corridors~~, except as otherwise indicated~~		
First floor	100	
Other floors	Same as occupancy served except as indicated	—
~~10. Dance halls and ballrooms~~	~~100~~	—
~~11~~ 9. Dining rooms and restaurants	100[m]	—
~~13.~~ 11. Elevator machine room grating (on area of ~~4 in²~~ 2 inches by 2 inches)	—	300
~~14.~~ 12. Finish light floor plate construction (on area of ~~1 in²~~ 1 inch by 1 inch)	—	200
~~16.~~ 14. Garages (passenger vehicles only) Trucks and buses	40[m]	Note a
	See Section 1607.7	

Table 1607.1 continues

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Table 1607.1 continued

Occupancy or Use	Uniform (psf)	Concentrated (lb)
~~17. Grandstands (see stadium and arena bleachers)~~	—	—
~~18. Gymnasiums, main floors and balconies~~	~~100~~	—
~~19.~~ 15. Handrails, guards and grab bars	See Section 1607.8	
16. Helipads	See Section 1607.6	
~~22~~ 19. Libraries		
Corridors above first floor	80	1000
Reading rooms	60	1000
Stack rooms	150[b, m]	1000
~~23~~ 20. Manufacturing		
Heavy	250[m]	3000
Light	125[m]	2000
24. Recreational uses:		
Bowling alleys, poolrooms, and similar uses	75[m]	
Dance halls and ballrooms	100[m]	
Gymnasiums	100[m]	
Reviewing stands, grandstands, and bleachers	100[c, m]	
Stadiums and arenas with fixed seats (fastened to floor)	60[c, m]	
~~27.~~ 25. Residential		
One- and two-family dwellings		
Uninhabitable attics without storage[i]	10	
Uninhabitable attics with ~~limited~~ storage[i, j, k]	20	
Habitable attics and sleeping areas[k]	30	—
All other areas	40	
Hotels and multiple-family dwellings		
Private rooms and corridors serving them	40	
Public rooms[m] and corridors serving them	100	
~~28. Reviewing stands, grandstands and bleachers~~		~~Note c~~
~~29.~~ 26. Roofs:		
All roof surfaces subject to maintenance workers		300
Awnings and canopies:		
Fabric construction supported by a ~~lightweight rigid~~ skeleton structure	5 Nonreducible	
All other construction	20	
Ordinary flat, pitched, and curved roofs (that are not occupiable)	20	
Where primary roof members, are exposed to a work floor, at single panel points of lower chord of roof trusses, or any point along primary structural members supporting roofs:		
Over manufacturing, storage warehouses, and repair garages		2000
All other ~~occupancies~~ primary roof members		300
~~Roofs used for other special purposes~~	~~Note l~~	~~Note l~~
~~Roofs used for promenade purposes~~	~~60~~	
~~Roofs used for roof gardens or assembly purposes~~	~~100~~	

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Occupancy or Use	Uniform (psf)	Concentrated (lb)
Occupiable roofs:		
Roof gardens	100	
Assembly areas	100[m]	
All other similar areas	Note l	Note l
~~32.~~ 29. Sidewalks, vehicular driveways, and yards, subject to trucking	250[d, m]	8000[e]
~~33. Skating rinks~~	~~100~~	—
~~34. Stadiums and arenas~~		
~~Bleachers~~	~~100[e]~~	—
~~Fixed seats (fastened to floor)~~	~~60[e]~~	
~~35.~~ 30. Stairs and exits		~~Note f~~
One- and two-family dwellings	40	300[f]
All other	100	300[f]
~~36.~~ 31. Storage warehouses (shall be designed for heavier loads if required for anticipated storage)		
Heavy	250[m]	—
Light	125[m]	
~~37.~~ 32. Stores		
Retail		
First floor	100	1000
Upper floors	75	1000
Wholesale, all floors	125[m]	1000
~~38.~~ 33. Vehicle barriers ~~systems~~	See Section 1607.8.3	
~~40.~~ 35. Yards and terraces, pedestrian	100 [m]	—

(Portions of table not shown are unchanged)

f. The minimum concentrated load on stair treads ~~(shall be applied~~ on an area of ~~4 square~~ 2 inches by 2 inches~~)~~ ~~is 300 pounds~~. This load need not be assumed to act concurrently with the uniform load.

g. Where snow loads occur that are in excess of the design conditions, the structure shall be designed to support the loads due to the increased loads caused by drift buildup or a greater snow design determined by the building official (see Section 1608). ~~For special-purpose roofs, see Section 1607.11.2.2.~~

i. Uninhabitable attics without storage are those where the maximum clear height between the joists and rafters is less than 42 inches, or where there are not two or more adjacent trusses with web configurations capable of accommodating an assumed rectangle 42 inches in height by by 24 inches in width, or greater, within the plane of the trusses. ~~For attics without storage,~~ This live load need not be assumed to act concurrently with any other live load requirements.

j. ~~For attics with limited storage and constructed with trusses, this live load need only be applied to those portions of the bottom chord~~ Uninhabitable attics with storage are those where the maximum clear height between the joists and rafters is 42 inches or greater, or where there are two or more adjacent trusses with ~~the same~~ web configurations capable of ~~containing~~ accommodating an assumed rectangle 42 inches ~~high~~ in height by 24 inches ~~wide~~ in width, or greater, ~~located~~ within the plane of the trusses

~~The rectangle shall fit between the top of the bottom chord and the bottom of any other truss member, provided that each of the following criteria is met:~~ The live load need only be applied to those portions of the joists or truss bottom chords where both of the following conditions are met:

i. The attic area is accessible ~~by a pull-down stairway or framed opening in accordance with Section 1209.2,~~ from an opening not less than 20 inches in width by 30 inches in length that is located where the clear height in the attic is a minimum of 30 inches; and

ii. The slopes of the joists or truss ~~shall have a~~ bottom chords ~~pitch less than 2:12~~ are no greater than 2 units vertical to 12 units horizontal.

~~iii. Bottom chords of trusses shall be designed for the greater of actual imposed dead load or 10 psf, uniformly distributed over the entire span.~~ The remaining portions of the joists or bottom chords shall be designed for a uniformly distributed concurrent live load of not less than 10 lb/ft^2.

k. Attic spaces served by ~~a fixed stair~~ stairways other than pull-down type shall be designed to support the minimum live load specified for habitable attics and sleeping rooms.

l. ~~Roofs used for other special purposes~~ Areas of occupiable roofs, other than roof gardens and assembly areas, shall be designed for appropriate loads as approved by the building official. Unoccupied landscaped areas of roofs shall be designed in accordance with Section 1607.12.3.

m. Live load reduction is not permitted unless specific exceptions of Section 1607.10 apply.

(Footnotes not shown are unchanged)

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Topic	2012	2015
Part 6 Building Envelope, Structural Systems, and Construction Materials (Chapters 12 through 26), Continued		
Photovoltaic panel systems, Ballasted photovoltaic panel systems		**1607.12.5** Design requirements for roof structures supporting photovoltaic (PV) solar panels and modules have been added to Section 1607.
		1613.6 Seismic requirements for ballasted roof-mounted photovoltaic (PV) solar panels have been added to section 1613.6.
Determination of wind loads	**1609, 202** The wind design requirements of Section 1609 have been updated and coordinated with the latest wind load provisions in ASCE/SEI 7 (ASCE 7-10) and the wind load maps in the IBC are now based on ultimate design wind speeds, V_{ult}, which produce a strength level wind load similar to seismic load effects.	
Mapped acceleration parameters	**1613.3.1, 202** The IBC seismic ground motion maps have been updated to reflect the 2008 maps developed by the United States Geological Survey (USGS) National Seismic Hazard Mapping Project and the technical changes adopted for the 2009 *NEHRP Recommended Seismic Provisions for New Buildings and Other Structures* (FEMA P750).	**1613.3.1** The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) recently developed seismic hazard and Risk-Targeted Maximum Considered Earthquake (MCER) ground motion maps for Guam and American Samoa, which have now been included in the IBC.
Statement of special inspections	**1704.3** The provisions requiring specific items to have special inspection and what information is required to be included in the statement of special inspections have been clarified and coordinated, with previous conflicts between the two being resolved.	
Submittals to the building official		**1704.5** Requirements for submittal of reports and certificates related to construction that is subject to special inspections and tests are now clearly specified.

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Topic	2012	2015
Part 6 Building Envelope, Structural Systems, and Construction Materials (Chapters 12 through 26), Continued		
Special inspections	**1705** Special inspection requirements for structural steel have been deleted from Chapter 17 because the new standard for structural steel buildings (ANSI/AISC 360-10) includes quality assurance provisions. Requirements pertaining to special inspection of masonry construction were deleted from Chapter 17 because the 2011 edition of TMS 402/ACI 530/ASCE 5 and TMS 602/ACI 530.1/ASCE 6 includes requirements for quality assurance of masonry construction.	**1705** Steel construction provisions modified to use new terminology that coordinates with Chapter 22 and AISC 360 standard. A new SDI standard addresses inspection of cold-formed steel floor and roof decks (SDI QA/QC) (Section 1705.2) Special inspections required during installation of open web steel joists and joist girders. (Section 1705.2.3) Special inspection of cast-in-place anchors in concrete where allowable loads have been increased or strength design is used have been deleted from Table 1705.3 since specific requirements for design and installation of adhesive anchors is now included in ACI 318. Continuous special inspection is added for these anchors installed horizontally or in upwardly inclined orientations with sustained loads. (Table 1705.3) Periodic special inspection of cold-formed steel special bolted moment frames (CFS-SBMFs) is now mandated. Modifications to the special inspection requirements for seismic resistance have been made to clarify the intent. (Section 1705.12)
	1705.17 (1705.16) Where penetration firestop systems and fire-resistant joint systems are used in high-rise buildings and those building assigned to Risk Category III and IV, it is now mandatory that they be inspected by an approved inspection agency as a part of the special inspection process.	
Structural items moved from code to standards	**Chapter 19** Numerous provisions related to concrete construction were deleted from Chapter 19 because they are contained in the 2011 edition of ACI 318. *Building Code Requirements for Structural Concrete and Commentary.* (e.g. IBC Sections 1905, 1906, and 1907 were deleted because they only provided referencing to the corresponding sections in the ACI 318 standard.)	**1901.3 Anchoring to concrete** Sections 1908 and 1909 of the 2012 IBC, which contain the requirements for anchorage to concrete, have been deleted because they are obsolete and not consistent with current referenced standards. In their place, ne provisions on anchoring to concrete have been added to the general provisions found in Section 1901. **1904 Durability requirements** The durability requirements for structural concrete have been deleted from the IBC and replaced by a reference to the durability provisions in ACI 318. **2101.2 Masonry Design Methods** The references in Chapter 21 to specific sections in the Masonry Standards Joint Committee (MSJC) code have been deleted because the 2013 edition of TMS 402/ACI 530/ASCE 5 has been substantially reorganized to be more user-friendly. The charging language of Section 2101.2 has been modified to simply reference TMS 402/ACI 530/ASCE 5 or TMS 403 for the design and construction of masonry structures.

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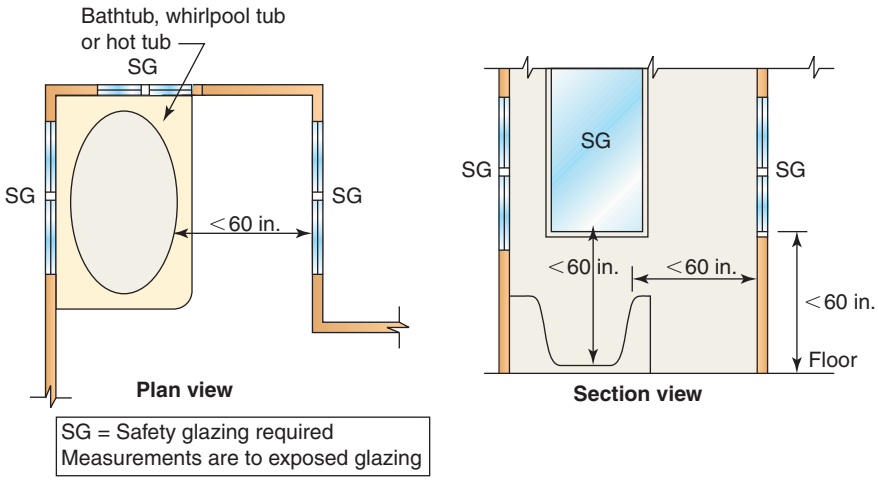
Topic	2012	2015
Part 6 Building Envelope, Structural Systems, and Construction Materials (Chapters 12 through 26), Continued		
Structural items moved from code to standards, *Continued*		**2103 Masonry Construction Materials** Masonry material provisions that have historically been found in Section 2103 have been deleted because they are contained in the MSJC Specification TMS 602/ACI 530.1/ASCE 6. **2104 Masonry Construction** Many masonry construction provisions previously found in Section 2104 that are contained in the MSJC Specification TMS 602/ACI 530.1/ASCE 6 have been deleted and replaced with references to the specification. **2105 Quality Assurance** Provisions for the quality assurance of masonry structures and related definitions have been deleted from Section 2106 and replaced with a reference to the MSJC Specification TMS 602/ACI 530.1/ASCE 6 and the special inspection and testing requirements contained in Chapter 17.
Conventional light-frame construction		**2308** Section 2308, which contains prescriptive requirements for conventional wood frame construction, has been reformatted and reorganized in its entirety. Significant changes include the introduction of new designations for wall bracing method similar to those in the IRC as shown in Table 2308.6.3(1), and reformatted wall bracing requirements set forth in Table 2308.6.1.
Roof and ceiling framing		**2308.7** Ceiling joist and rafter span tables from the IRC have been incorporated into the conventional construction provisions of the IBC.
Safety glazing – hazardous locations	**2406.1, 2406.4** The hazardous locations identified in the safety glazing provisions have been reorganized and clarified in order to provide better consistency between the IBC and IRC.	



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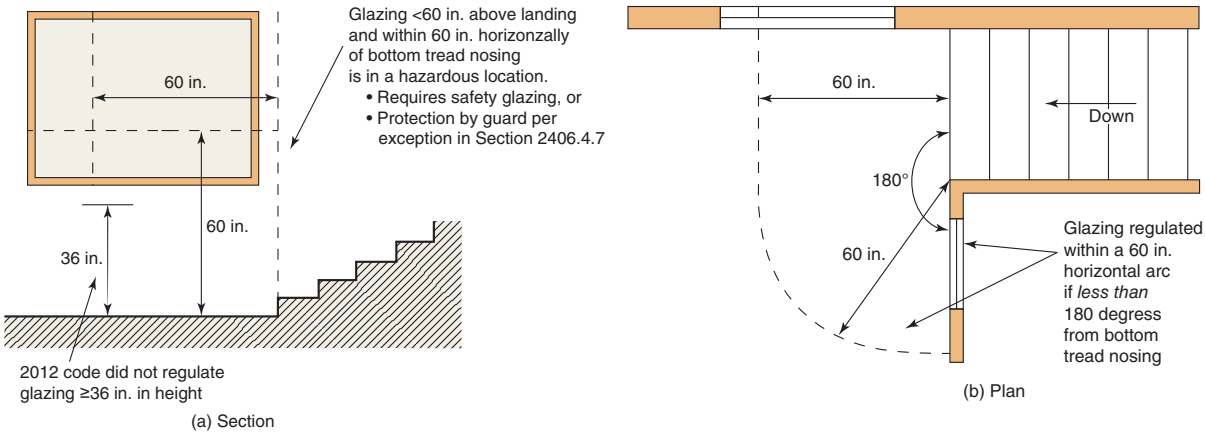
Topic	2012	2015
Part 6 Building Envelope, Structural Systems, and Construction Materials (Chapters 12 through 26), Continued		
Safety glazing – impact test	**2406.2** The default impact test criteria have been revised to impose the more restrictive test methodology. The higher impact requirements will apply unless the tables in Section 2406.2 allow for a lower impact test to be used.	
Safety glazing adjacent to bottom stair landing		**2406.4.7** The height criteria for regulating glazing at the landing at the bottom of a stair has been revised and the method for measuring the horizontal distance has been clarified, now generally requiring safety glazing if located less than 60 inches above the bottom landing of the stair.



Topic	2012	2015
Water-resistive barriers for stucco applications	**2510.6** In order to reduce the likelihood of moisture getting into the building, detailed requirements have been provided for the installation of the two layers of weather-resistive barriers that are required behind stucco-covered exterior walls.	
Foam plastic insulation installed in floor assemblies	**2603.4.1.14** The use of 1/2-inch wood structural panels installed on the walking surface side of a floor assembly is now permitted as an alternative to the thermal barrier typically required where foam plastic insulation is installed within a floor assembly.	
Special approval of foam plastics	**2603.9 (2603.10, 2603.10.1)** The specific approval requirements now ensure that the smoke development of all assemblies that contain foam plastic is evaluated regardless of the test standard used.	
Plastic composites		**2612** New definitions and applicable test standards now address the use of plastic composites for use as exterior deck boards, stair treads, handrails and guards.

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Topic	2012	2015
Part 7 Building Services, Special Devices, and Special Conditions (Chapters 27 through 34)		
Single-user toilet facilities	**2902.2** Where separate sex toilet facilities are required and only one water closet is required in each facility, two family or assisted-use toilet rooms may now be provided as an acceptable alternative.	
Toilet facilities in parking garages	**2902.3** Public toilet facilities are no longer required in open and enclosed parking garages and employee toilet facilities are not required in those garages that do not have parking attendants.	
Public toilet facilities		**2902.3** Limited-size quick-service tenant spaces are no longer required to provide toilet facilities for the public customers.
Elevator hoistway venting		**3004** The elevator hoistway venting provisions of Section 3004 have been deleted; such hoistways are no longer required to be vented to the exterior.
Elevator lobbies and hoistway opening protection		**3006** The elevator lobby requirements have been relocated from Section 713.14.1, where they were previously included with the general shaft enclosure requirements, to Chapter 30, which addresses elevators. Provisions now focus on hoistway opening protection, with lobbies being one of three options (enclosed lobbies, additional door, or hoistway pressurization).
Fire service access elevators, Occupant evacuation elevators	**3007** Many of the provisions addressing fire service access elevators have now been coordinated with those applicable to occupant evacuation elevators to ensure that the fire service access elevators are able to continue to function and serve their intended purpose during an emergency. **3008** The provisions addressing occupant evacuation elevators are now more closely coordinated with those regulating fire service access elevators	
Existing structures		**Chapter 34** Chapter 34 has been deleted from the IBC in its entirety, and existing buildings will now be solely regulated by the *International Existing Building Code* (IEBC).
Type B units in existing buildings	**IEBC 410 (3411)** Type B units are now required in existing buildings when there is a change of occupancy or an alteration and more than 50 percent of the building is affected. **Note:** Because the 2015 IBC deleted Chapter 34, this provision is no longer found within the IBC. However, this requirement is located in the IEBC which is adopted by reference in IBC Section 101.4.7. In addition, because this requirement is more restrictive than the requirements of the federal Fair Housing Act, it is important code users are aware of this change.	

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