

2024 IRC[®] Code and Commentary—Volume 2

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PREFACE

The principal purpose of the Commentary is to provide a basic volume of knowledge and facts relating to building construction as it pertains to the regulations set forth in the 2024 *International Residential Code*® (IRC®). The person who is serious about effectively designing, constructing and regulating one- and two-family homes and townhouses will find the Commentary to be a reliable data source and reference.

As a follow-up to the IRC, we offer a companion document, the *IRC® Code and Commentary—Volume 2*. Volume 2 covers Chapters 12 through 43 and the Appendices of the 2024 IRC. The basic appeal of the Commentary is thus: it provides, in a small package and at reasonable cost, thorough coverage of many issues likely to be dealt with when using the IRC—and then supplements that coverage with historical and technical background. Reference lists, information sources and bibliographies are also included.

Throughout all of this, effort has been made to keep the vast quantity of material accessible and its method of presentation useful. With a comprehensive yet concise summary of each section, the Commentary provides a convenient reference for regulations applicable to the construction of buildings and structures. In the chapters that follow, discussions focus on the full meaning and implications of the code text. Guidelines suggest the most effective method of application and the consequences of not adhering to the code text. Illustrations are provided to aid understanding; they do not necessarily illustrate the only methods of achieving code compliance.

The format of the Commentary includes the full text of each section, table and figure in the code, followed immediately by the commentary applicable to that text. Each section’s narrative includes a statement of its objective and intent, and usually includes a discussion about why the requirement commands the conditions set forth. Code text and commentary text are easily distinguished from each other. All commentary is indented below the code text, accompanied by a “C” icon and vertical line.

Readers should note that the Commentary is to be used in conjunction with the IRC and not as a substitute for the code. The Commentary is advisory only; the code official alone possesses the authority and responsibility for interpreting the code.

Comments and recommendations are encouraged, for through your input, we can improve future editions. Please direct your comments to customersuccess@iccsafe.org.

The International Code Council would like to extend its thanks to the following individuals for their contributions to the technical content of this commentary:

John Abner and Perry Hyder

For the complete errata history of this code, please visit: <https://www.iccsafe.org/contentupdates/>

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Part V—Mechanical

CHAPTER 12	MECHANICAL ADMINISTRATION	12-1 – 12-2
CHAPTER 13	GENERAL MECHANICAL SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS	13-1 – 13-18
CHAPTER 14	HEATING AND COOLING EQUIPMENT AND APPLIANCES	14-1 – 14-18
CHAPTER 15	EXHAUST SYSTEMS	15-1 – 15-20
CHAPTER 16	DUCT SYSTEMS	16-1 – 16-20
CHAPTER 17	COMBUSTION AIR	17-1 – 17-2
CHAPTER 18	CHIMNEYS AND VENTS	18-1 – 18-14
CHAPTER 19	SPECIAL APPLIANCES, EQUIPMENT AND SYSTEMS	19-1 – 19-4
CHAPTER 20	BOILERS AND WATER HEATERS	20-1 – 20-10
CHAPTER 21	HYDRONIC PIPING	21-1 – 21-16
CHAPTER 22	SPECIAL PIPING AND STORAGE SYSTEMS	22-1 – 22-4
CHAPTER 23	SOLAR THERMAL ENERGY SYSTEMS	23-1 – 23-8

Part VI—Fuel Gas

CHAPTER 24	FUEL GAS	24-1 – 24-306
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Part VII—Plumbing

CHAPTER 25	PLUMBING ADMINISTRATION	25-1 – 25-6
CHAPTER 26	GENERAL PLUMBING REQUIREMENTS	26-1 – 26-26
CHAPTER 27	PLUMBING FIXTURES	27-1 – 27-30
CHAPTER 28	WATER HEATERS	28-1 – 28-10
CHAPTER 29	WATER SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION	29-1 – 29-90
CHAPTER 30	SANITARY DRAINAGE	30-1 – 30-40
CHAPTER 31	VENTS	31-1 – 31-30
CHAPTER 32	TRAPS	32-1 – 32-6
CHAPTER 33	STORM DRAINAGE	33-1 – 33-2

Part VIII—Electrical

CHAPTER 34	GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.....	34-1 – 34-20
CHAPTER 35	ELECTRICAL DEFINITIONS.....	35-1 – 35-20
CHAPTER 36	SERVICES.....	36-1 – 36-36
CHAPTER 37	BRANCH CIRCUIT AND FEEDER REQUIREMENTS.....	37-1 – 37-26
CHAPTER 38	WIRING METHODS	38-1 – 38-12
CHAPTER 39	POWER AND LIGHTING DISTRIBUTION.....	39-1 – 39-60
CHAPTER 40	DEVICES AND LUMINAIRES	40-1 – 40-16
CHAPTER 41	APPLIANCE INSTALLATION.....	41-1 – 41-6
CHAPTER 42	SWIMMING POOLS	42-1 – 42-20
CHAPTER 43	CLASS 2 REMOTE-CONTROL, SIGNALING AND POWER-LIMITED CIRCUITS	43-1 – 43-4

Part IX—Referenced Standards

CHAPTER 44	REFERENCED STANDARDS.....	44-1 – 44-40
APPENDIX AA	BOARD OF APPEALS.....	AA-1 – AA-4
APPENDIX AB	PERMIT FEES.....	AB-1 – AB-2
APPENDIX AC	RESERVED.....	AC-1 – AC-2
APPENDIX BA	MANUFACTURED HOUSING USED AS DWELLINGS	BA-1 – BA-14
APPENDIX BB	TINY HOUSES	BB-1 – BB-8
APPENDIX BC	ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS (ADU).....	BC-1 – BC-4
APPENDIX BD	HOME DAY CARE OCCUPANCY.....	BD-1 – BD-2
APPENDIX BE	RADON CONTROL METHODS.....	BE-1 – BE-12
APPENDIX BF	PATIO COVERS	BF-1 – BF-6
APPENDIX BG	SOUND TRANSMISSION	BG-1 – BG-2
APPENDIX BH	AUTOMATIC VEHICULAR GATES	BH-1 – BH-2
APPENDIX BI	LIGHT STRAW-CLAY CONSTRUCTION.....	BI-1 – BI-12
APPENDIX BJ	STRAWBALE CONSTRUCTION	BJ-1 – BJ-38

APPENDIX BK	COB CONSTRUCTION (MONOLITHIC ADOBE)	BK-1 – BK-36
APPENDIX BL	HEMP-LIME (HEMPCRETE) CONSTRUCTION	BL-1 – BL-28
APPENDIX BM	3D-PRINTED BUILDING CONSTRUCTION	BM-1 – BM-4
APPENDIX BN	EXTENDED PLATE WALL CONSTRUCTION	BN-1 – BN-6
APPENDIX BO	EXISTING BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES	BO-1 – BO-12
APPENDIX CA	SIZING AND CAPACITIES OF GAS PIPING	CA-1 – CA-14
APPENDIX CB	SIZING OF VENTING SYSTEMS SERVING APPLIANCES EQUIPPED WITH DRAFT HOODS, CATEGORY I APPLIANCES AND APPLIANCES LISTED FOR USE WITH TYPE B VENTS	CB-1 – CB-14
APPENDIX CC	RECOMMENDED PROCEDURE FOR SAFETY INSPECTION OF AN EXISTING APPLIANCE INSTALLATION	CC-1 – CC-6
APPENDIX CD	PIPING STANDARDS FOR VARIOUS APPLICATIONS	CD-1 – CD-6
APPENDIX CE	VENTING METHODS	CE-1 – CE-6
APPENDIX CF	SIZING OF WATER PIPING SYSTEM	CF-1 – CE-20
APPENDIX CG	ONSEWERED SANITATION SYSTEMS	CG-1 – CG-2
APPENDIX CH	PRIVATE SEWAGE DISPOSAL	CH-1 – CH-2
APPENDIX NA	RESERVED	NA-1 – NA-2
APPENDIX NB	SOLAR-READY PROVISIONS—DETACHED ONE- AND TWO-FAMILY DWELLINGS AND TOWNHOUSES	NB-1 – NB-4
APPENDIX NC	ZERO NET ENERGY RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PROVISIONS	NC-1 – NC-4
APPENDIX ND	ELECTRIC ENERGY STORAGE PROVISIONS	ND-1 – ND-2
APPENDIX NE	ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE	NE-1 – NE-4
APPENDIX NF	ALTERNATIVE BUILDING THERMAL ENVELOPE INSULATION R-VALUE OPTIONS	NF-1 – NF-10
APPENDIX NG	2024 IECC STRETCH CODE	NG-1 – NG-2
APPENDIX NH	OPERATIONAL CARBON RATING AND ENERGY REPORTING	NH-1 – NH-2
APPENDIX NI	ON-SITE REVEWABLE ENERGY	NI-1 – NI-4
APPENDIX NJ	DEMAND RESPONSIVE CONTROLS	NJ-1 – NJ-2
APPENDIX NK	ELECTRIC-READY RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PROVISIONS	NK-1 – NK-2

APPENDIX NL RENEWABLE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE.....NL-1 – NL-4
APPENDIX NE ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURENE-1 – NE-4
INDEXINDEX-1 – INDEX-10
RESOURCE ARESOURCE A-1