

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES 2009-2012 INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE

- **R301 DESIGN CRITERIA.** Revisions to this section titles and text clarify the intent and application of the wind provisions. New maps update the nominal wind speeds for the United States to correlate with 2010 edition of ASCE 7 and define the high-wind regions that require structural design in accordance with one of the reference standards.
- **R302.1 EXTERIOR WALLS.** The code now provides two tables for minimum clearances to the lot line. Table R302.1(1) Exterior Walls without sprinkler system and Table R302.1(2) Exterior Walls-Dwellings with Fire Sprinklers.
- **R308 GLAZING, SECTION 308.4 HAZARDOUS LOCATIONS.** The provision for hazardous locations related to installation of glazing have been reorganized in subsections and given a descriptive title.
- **R312 GUARDS AND WINDOW FALL PROTECTION: Guards and Window Fall Protection.** Relocated from Chapter 6 to Chapter 3 and updated for consistency with the referenced standard ASTM F 290.
- **R314.5 SMOKE ALARMS.** The code now specifically recognizes wireless technology in lieu of interconnection for smoke alarm installations both new and existing dwelling units.
- **R315.2 CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTION SYSTEM.** The IRC now specifically recognizes carbon monoxide detection systems with separate detectors and notification appliances installed in accordance with NFPA 720.
- **R316.4 THERMAL BARRIER.** Where foam plastic insulation is used, the foam plastic shall be separated from the interior of a building by approved thermal barrier minimum ½ inch gypsum wallboard or any material that performs equivalently to the ½ -inch gypsum board.
- **R905.2.7 UNDERLAYMENT AND HIGH WIND.** New requirements for installation of roof covering underlayment has been added for high-wind areas where the nominal design wind speed is equal to or greater than 120 mph or conforms to ASTM D226 type II.