




2015 Residential Code Question Of The Week

According to the 2015 IRC, clothes dryer exhaust duct terminations shall _____.

- A) be in accordance with the dryer manufacturer's installation instructions
- B) terminate not less than 3 feet in any direction from openings into buildings unless otherwise specified by the manufacturer's installation instructions
- C) be equipped with a backdraft damper
- D) All Of The Above 

SECTION M1502 CLOTHES DRYER EXHAUST

M1502.1 General. Clothes dryers shall be exhausted in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

M1502.2 Independent exhaust systems. Dryer exhaust systems shall be independent of all other systems and shall convey the moisture to the outdoors.

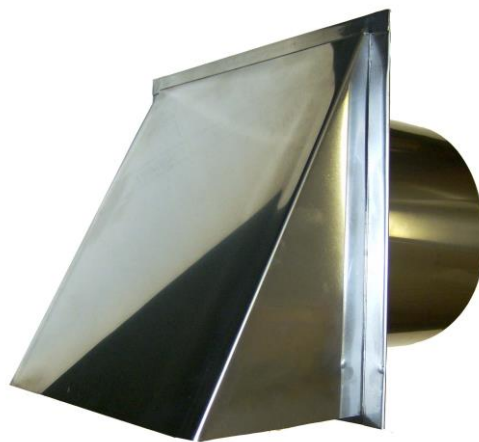
Exception: This section shall not apply to *listed* and *labeled* condensing (ductless) clothes dryers.

M1502.3 Duct termination. Exhaust ducts shall terminate on the outside of the building. Exhaust duct terminations shall be in accordance with the dryer manufacturer's installation instructions. If the manufacturer's instructions do not specify a termination location, the exhaust duct shall terminate not less than 3 feet (914 mm) in any direction from openings into buildings. Exhaust duct terminations shall be equipped with a backdraft damper. Screens shall not be installed at the duct termination.



M1502.3.1 Dryer Exhaust Duct Termination

- A minimum area of 12.5 square inches has been established for the terminal outlet of dryer duct exhaust.
- The only provision for duct terminations in previous codes has been the requirement for a backdraft damper.
- Now the code places the same emphasis on the termination as the duct itself, requiring the terminations to be undiminished in size.



Modification Number: IRC 2015 26.

Section: M1502.3 Duct termination.

Modification: Deleted the third sentence without substitution.

The section now states: Exhaust ducts shall terminate on the outside of the building. Exhaust duct terminations shall be in accordance with the dryer manufacturer's installation instructions. Exhaust duct terminations shall be equipped with a backdraft damper. Screens shall not be installed at the duct termination.

Reason: The three feet dimension is arbitrary and restrictive; the dimension is not a requirement of the dryer manufacturers.

Note: Continued modification IRC 2006 29 and 2012 19. In the 2012 edition the section number was changed from M1502.2 to M1502.3.

Proponent: Home Builders Association of South Carolina.


Effective Date: July 1, 2008.



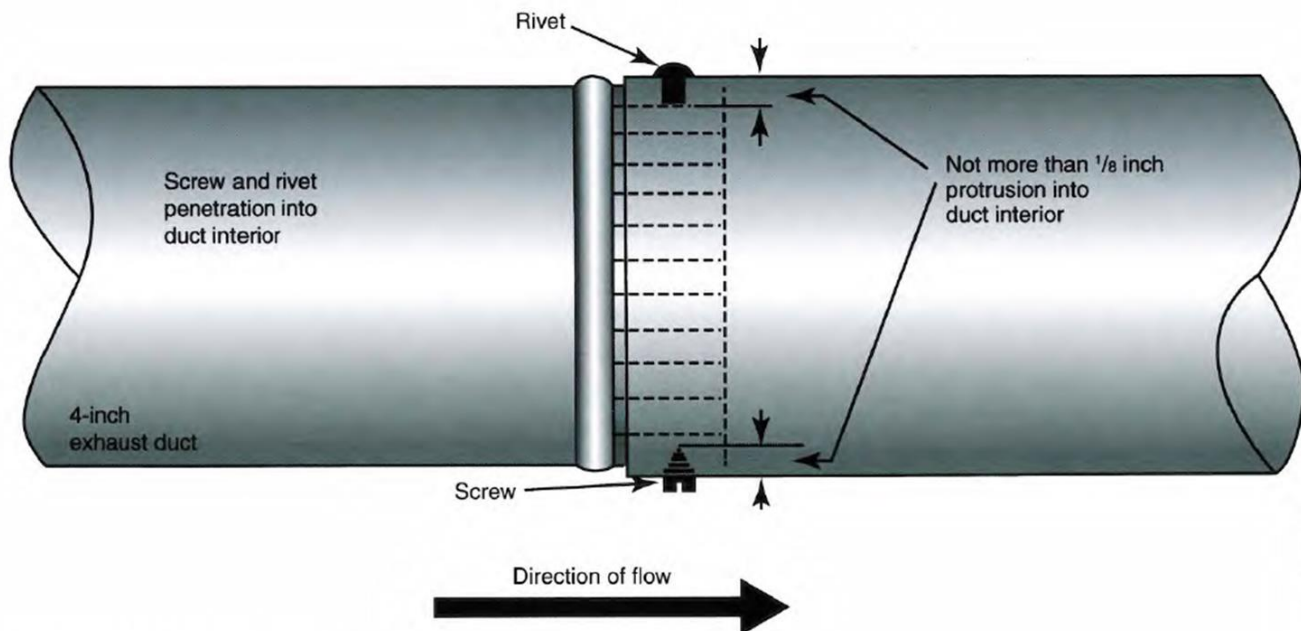


2015 Commercial Code Question Of The Week

According to the 2015 IMC, clothes dryer exhaust ducts shall not be joined with screws or similar fasteners that protrude more than __ inch into the inside of the duct.

- A) 1/16
- B) 1/8 
- C) 3/16
- D) Screws shall not protrude into the inside of the duct.

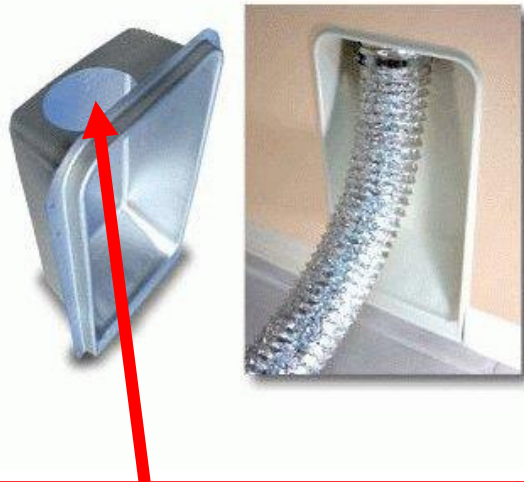
504.8.2 Duct installation. Exhaust ducts shall be supported at 4-foot (1219 mm) intervals and secured in place. The insert end of the duct shall extend into the adjoining duct or fitting in the direction of airflow. Ducts shall not be joined with screws or similar fasteners that protrude more than $\frac{1}{8}$ inch (3.2 mm) into the inside of the duct.





504.8.2 Dryer Exhaust In Framing Cavity

- This new language in the code requires that where dryer exhaust ducts are enclosed in wall or ceiling cavities, such cavities shall allow the installation of the duct without deformation.
- So a 4-inch exhaust duct will no longer be allowed in a 2 x 4 wall stud cavity unless it is furred out.



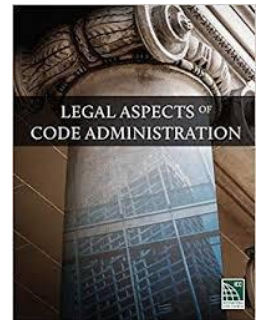
Notice the oval hole in the top of the insert, which is not allowed by the 2018 IMC if you are using a round duct. In South Carolina, the code has been amended to allow this ovalization.



2015 CBO Legal Question Of The Week

When a court reviews a Board of Building Codes Appeals decision, a _____ hearing is one in which the whole hearing is reheld in front of the court

- A) *de novo* ←
- B) *tribunal*
- C) *per curiam*
- D) *de facto*



Chapter 7 Administrative Law – *Legal Aspects of Code Administration*

The court system relies generally on two types of review: a *de novo* hearing and one based on the record before the administrative tribunal. A *de novo* hearing is one in which the whole hearing is reheld in front of a court. The court disregards the facts collected in front of the administrative tribunal and gathers its own facts. When the court's review is based upon the record before the administrative hearing, it will only consider the facts that were in front of the administrative tribunal. In a state where the appeals are by a *de novo* hearing, it is not important for the building official to explain the reasons for his denial of the application in the first place. The building official will have an opportunity later in court if the case is appealed. In those states that have only a hearing on the record, however, the building official must have placed into the record the reasons for denial of the application. He or she must also have placed into the record sufficient information from which the court can conclude that the relief being sought by this applicant could not be granted by the board. In other words, the building official must articulately and comprehensibly present during the hearing before the BBCA gives the reason for the denial.