

EXCERPTS FROM 2000 Urban – Wildland Interface Code

SECTION 504

CLASS 1 IGNITION-RESISTANT CONSTRUCTION

504.1 General. Class 1 ignition-resistant construction shall be in accordance with Section 504.

504.2 Roof covering. Roofs shall have a Class A roof covering or a Class A roof assembly. For roof coverings where the profile allows a space between the roof covering and roof decking, the space at the eave ends shall be firestopped to preclude entry of flames or embers.

504.3 Protection of eaves. Eaves and soffits shall be protected on the exposed underside by materials approved for a minimum of 1-hour fire-resistance-rated construction. Fascias are required and must be protected on the backside by materials approved for a minimum of 1-hour fire-resistance-rated construction or 2-inch (51 mm) nominal dimension lumber.

504.4 Gutters and downspouts. Gutters and downspouts shall be constructed of noncombustible material.

504.5 Exterior walls. Exterior walls of buildings or structures shall be constructed with materials approved for a minimum of 1-hour fire-resistance-rated construction on the exterior side or constructed with approved noncombustible materials.

Exception: Heavy timber or log wall construction. Such material shall extend from the top of the foundation to the underside of the roof sheathing.

504.6 Unenclosed under-floor protection. Buildings or structures shall have all under-

floor areas enclosed to the ground with exterior walls in accordance with Section 504.5.

Exception: Complete enclosure may be omitted where the underside of all exposed floors and all exposed structural columns, beams and supporting walls are protected as required for exterior 1-hour fire-resistance-rated construction or heavy timber construction.

504.7 Appendages and projections. Unenclosed accessory structures attached to buildings with habitable spaces and projections, such as decks, shall be a minimum of 1-hour fire-resistance-rated construction, heavy timber construction or constructed of approved noncombustible materials. When the attached structure is located and constructed so that the structure or any portion thereof projects over a descending slope surface greater than 10 percent, the area below the structure shall have all under-floor areas enclosed to within 6 inches (152 mm) of the ground with exterior wall construction in accordance with Section 504.5.

504.8 Exterior glazing. Exterior windows, window walls and glazed doors, windows within exterior doors, and skylights shall be tempered glass, multi-layered glazed panels, glass block or have a fire protection rating of not less than 20 minutes.

504.9 Exterior doors. Exterior doors shall be approved non-combustible construction, solid core wood not less than 1-3/4 inches thick (45mm), or have a fire protection rating of not less than 20 minutes. Windows within doors and glazed doors shall be in accordance with Section 504.8.

Exception: Vehicle access doors.

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504.10 Vents. Attic ventilation openings, foundation or under-floor vents, or other ventilation openings in vertical exterior walls and vents through roofs shall not exceed 144 square inches (0.0929m²) each. Such vents shall be covered with noncombustible, corrosion-resistant mesh with openings not to exceed 1/4 inch (6.4 mm). Attic ventilation openings shall not be located in soffits, in eave overhangs, between rafters at eaves, or in other overhang areas. Gable end and dormer vents shall be located at least 10 feet (3048 mm) from property lines. Under-floor ventilation openings shall be located as close to grade as practical.

504.11 Detached accessory structures. Detached accessory structures located less than 50 feet (15 240 mm) from a building containing habitable space shall have exterior walls constructed with materials approved for a minimum of 1-hour fire-resistance-rated construction, heavy timber, log wall construction or constructed with approved noncombustible materials on the exterior side. When the detached structure is located and constructed so that the structure or any portion thereof projects over a descending slope surface greater than 10 percent, the area below the structure shall have all under-floor areas enclosed to within 6 inches (152 mm) of the ground with exterior wall construction in accordance with Section 504.5 or under-floor protection in accordance with Section 504.6.

Exception: The enclosure may be omitted where the underside of all exposed floors and all exposed structural columns, beams and supporting walls are protected as required for exterior 1-hour fire-resistance-rated construction or heavy timber construction.

See Section 504.2 for roof requirements.

SECTION 505

CLASS 2 IGNITION-RESISTANT CONSTRUCTION

505.1 General. Class 2 ignition-resistant construction shall be in accordance with Section 505.

505.2 Roof covering. Roofs shall have at least a Class B roof covering, Class B roof assembly or an approved noncombustible roof covering. For roof coverings where the profile allows a space between the roof covering and roof decking, the space at the eave ends shall be firestopped to preclude entry of flames or embers.

505.3 Protection of eaves. Combustible eaves, fascias and soffits shall be enclosed with solid materials with a minimum thickness of 3/4 inch (19 mm). No exposed rafter tails shall be permitted unless constructed of heavy timber materials.

505.4 Gutters and downspouts. Gutters and downspouts shall be constructed of noncombustible material.

505.5 Exterior walls. Exterior walls of buildings or structures shall be constructed with materials approved for a minimum of 1-hour fire-resistance-rated construction on the exterior side or constructed with approved noncombustible materials.

Exception: Heavy timber or log wall construction. Such material shall extend

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from the top of the foundation to the underside of the roof sheathing.

505.6 Unenclosed under-floor protection.

Buildings or structures shall have all under-floor areas enclosed to the ground, with exterior walls in accordance with Section 505.5.

Exception: Complete enclosure may be omitted where the under-side of all exposed floors and all exposed structural columns, beams and supporting walls are protected as required for exterior 1-hour fire-resistance-rated construction or heavy timber construction.

505.7 Appendages and projections.

Unenclosed accessory structures attached to buildings with habitable spaces and projections, such as decks, shall be a minimum of 1-hour fire-resistance-rated construction, heavy timber construction or constructed with approved noncombustible materials. When the attached structure is located and constructed so that the structure or any portion thereof projects over a descending slope surface greater than 10 percent, the area below the structure shall have all under-floor areas enclosed to within 6 inches (152 mm) of the ground with exterior wall construction in accordance with Section 505.5.

505.8 Exterior glazing. Exterior windows, window walls and glazed doors, windows within exterior doors, and skylights shall be tempered glass, multi-layered glazed panels, glass block or have a fire-protection rating of not less than 20 minutes.

505.9 Exterior doors. Exterior doors shall be approved non-combustible construction, solid core wood not less than 1 3/4-inches

thick (45 mm), or have a fire protection rating of not less than 20 minutes. Windows within doors and glazed doors shall be in accordance with Section 505.8.

Exception: Vehicle access doors.

505.10 Vents. Attic ventilation openings, foundation or under-floor vents or other ventilation openings in vertical exterior walls and vents through roofs shall not exceed 144 square inches (0.0929m²) each. Such vents shall be covered with non-combustible corrosion-resistant mesh with openings not to exceed 1/4 inch (6.4 mm). Attic ventilation openings shall not be located in soffits, in eave overhangs, between rafters at eaves, or in other overhang areas. Gable end and dormer vents shall be located at least 10 feet (3048 mm) from property lines. Under-floor ventilation openings shall be located as close to grade as practical.

505.11 Detached accessory structures.

Detached accessory structures located less than 50 feet (15 240 mm) from a building containing habitable space shall have exterior walls constructed with materials approved for a minimum of 1-hour fire-resistance-rated construction, heavy timber, log wall construction, or constructed with approved noncombustible material on the exterior side. When the detached structure is located and constructed so that the structure or any portion thereof projects over a descending slope surface greater than 10 percent, the area below the structure shall have all under-floor areas enclosed to-within 6 inches (152 mm) of the ground with exterior wall construction in accordance with Section 505.5 or under-floor protection in accordance with Section 505.6.

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Exception: The enclosure may be omitted where the underside of all exposed floors and all exposed structural columns, beams and supporting walls are protected as required for exterior 1-hour fire-resistance-rated construction or heavy timber construction.

See Section 505.2 for roof requirements.

SECTION 506

CLASS 3 IGNITION-RESISTANT CONSTRUCTION

506.1 General. Class 3 ignition-resistant construction shall be in accordance with Section 506.

506.2 Roof covering. Roofs shall have at least a Class C roof covering, Class C roof assembly or an approved noncombustible roof covering. For roof coverings where the profile allows a space between the roof covering and roof decking, the space at the eave ends shall be fire-stopped to preclude entry of flames or embers.

Exception: Minimum Roof Coverings for Santa Cruz County is Class B.

506.3 Unenclosed under-floor protection. Buildings or structures shall have all under-floor areas enclosed to the ground with exterior walls.

Exception: Complete enclosure may be omitted where the underside of all exposed floors and all exposed structural columns, beams and supporting walls are protected as required for exterior 1-hour

fire-resistance-rated construction or heavy timber construction.

506.4 Vents. Attic ventilation openings, soffit vents, foundation or under-floor vents or other ventilation openings in vertical exterior walls and vents through roofs shall not exceed 144 square inches (0.0929 m²) each. Such vents shall be covered with noncombustible corrosion-resistant mesh with openings not to exceed 1/4 inch (6.4 mm).