2016 CALIFORNIA BUILDING STANDARDS CODE OF REGULATIONS TITLE 24

Domestic Clothes Dryer Vents – Length Limitations

Clothes Dryers

The following regulations apply to domestic moisture exhaust ducts in accordance with the 2016 California Mechanical Code, Section 504.

- Duct shall terminate on the outside of building and be equipped with back-draft damper
- No screens shall be installed at duct termination
- Duct shall not be connected by sheet metal screws or other obstructive fasteners
- Duct shall not be connected to gas vent connector, gas vent, or chimney and shall only serve clothes dryers
- Ducts under positive pressure shall not extend into or through ducts or plenums

Domestic Clothes Dryers

Where a compartment or space for a domestic clothes dryer is provided, the following restrictions apply:

- Minimum 4-inch diameter moisture exhaust duct approved material shall be installed
- When a closet is designed for the installation of a clothes dryer, provide a minimum opening of 100 square inches in the door for makeup air or by other approved means

- Ducts shall be insulated through attic and crawl space with 1-3/4" pound fiberglass duct wrap
- Domestic clothes dryer vents shall be made of metal and have smooth interior surfaces

Exception: Listed clothes dryer transition ducts not more than 6-feet in length may be used in connection with domestic dryer exhausts.

Length Limitation

- Unless otherwise permitted or required by the dryer manufacturer's installation instructions, and approved by the Building Official, domestic dryer moisture exhaust ducts shall not exceed a total combined horizontal and vertical length of 14-feet, including two 90 degree elbows
- Two feet shall be deducted for each 90 degree elbow in excess of two
- Alternate approvals will be required for increased duct lengths and elbows

Termination of Environmental Air Ducts

- Ducts shall terminate a minimum of 3-feet from property line and 3-feet from openings into the building