

Exhaust Systems

Section M1501 Clothes Dryers Exhaust

M1501.1 Vent systems on dryers must be independent of all other systems. They shall discharge moisture to the outdoors. Also they must terminate to the outside of the building.

Exhaust duct terminations shall be in accordance with the dryer manufacturer's installation instructions. Screens shall not be installed at the duct termination. These ducts shall not be connected with sheet-metal screws or fastening means which extend into the duct. Exhaust ducts shall be equipped with a back draft damper. Exhaust ducts shall be constructed of minimum 0.016-inch-thick rigid metal ducts, having smooth interior surfaces with joints running in the direction of air flow. Flexible transition ducts used to connect the dryer to the exhaust duct system shall be limited to single lengths, not to exceed 8 feet in length and shall be listed and labeled in accordance with UL 2158A. Transition ducts shall not be concealed within construction.

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

M1501.2 Exhaust duct size. The diameter of the exhaust duct shall be as required by the clothes dryer's listing and the manufacturer's installation instructions.

M1501.3 Length limitation. The maximum length of a clothes dryer exhaust duct shall not exceed 25 feet from the dryer location to the wall or roof termination. The maximum length of the duct shall be reduced 2.5 feet for each 45-degree bend and 5 feet for each 90-degree bend. The maximum length of the exhaust duct does not include the transition duct. See the *CODE for the exceptions to this requirement.

Source: *International Residential Code[®] 2003, One and Two-Family Dwellings

If you have questions regarding the installation of HVAC/R equipment contact your local inspector. It is less expensive to place a call and ask for clarification on any installation, rather than fix a code violation

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