



**THE 2024 INTERNATIONAL CODES
WILL GO INTO EFFECT
JANUARY 1, 2026**

CODES: DID YOU KNOW?

- Building Codes are updated every three years to keep up with trends and needs.
- Building Codes are developed through the input of code officials, designers, builders, manufacturers, and other experts.
- Code changes are vetted by committees and voted on by industry experts worldwide before going into effect.
- The International Code Council is the organization that compiles and publishes the Codes.
- Cities like Denison formally adopt the Building Codes into law.

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE 2024 INTERNATIONAL MECHANICAL CODE

306.3 – NCTCOG Amendment: Appliances in Attics

- A walkway to an appliance shall be rated as a floor
- Attic access shall be provided by a permanent stair, a pull-down stair rated for at least 300 lbs, or an access door from an upper level

306.5 – Access to Rooftop Equipment (Addition)

- A 30-inch deep landing is required at the top of a roof access ladder
- Ladder specs have changed: rung spacing 10-14 inches, minimum toe space has increased to 7-12 inches, and the width has been reduced from 18 to 16 inches
- The guard height at the top has increased to 42 inches

Table 403.3.1.1 – Ventilation Rates (Addition)

- Minimum ventilation rates for veterinary facilities and specific outpatient healthcare facilities have been added

501.6 – Common Ducts (Addition)

- Exhaust ducts serving separate dwelling or sleeping units cannot connect to a common duct unless it is kept at negative pressure

505.7/505.8 – Range Hoods in I-1 and I-2 Occupancies (Addition)

- Provisions have been added for the use of domestic range hoods with domestic cooking appliances in Groupe I-1 and I-2.

506.3.2.5.1 – Light Testing (Modification)

- Lighting specifications for light testing grease ducts was previously based on the wattage of an incandescent bulb. That has been replaced with minimum specifications for other types of light source.

507.1 – Commercial Kitchen Hood Exceptions (Addition)

- The code added exceptions for where commercial kitchen hoods are required, including vented wood-fired ovens, self-condensing dishwashers, and appliances that produce steam but no grease.

601.5 – Return Air from Closets (Modification)

- Taking return air from a closet is no longer prohibited, provided that if the closet is smaller than 30 sq. ft., the door is either louvered or undercut on the bottom by at least 1.5 inches. This does not replace return air intake from other spaces in the building.

931 – Steam Bath Equipment (Addition)

- A definition and referenced standard have been added for steam bath equipment

1101.7/Table 1103.1 – Changing Refrigerant (Modification)

- The building owner must be notified of a change in refrigerant
- The change must comply with instructions from the original equipment manufacturer or be evaluated by a registered design professional or approved agency
- If the refrigerant is in a different safety group, the system must comply with the requirements for that group

1102.2.1 – Mixing Refrigerants (Modification)

- Mixing refrigerants is allowed if done in accordance with the original equipment manufacturer's instructions and as long as the mixture doesn't result in a change in safety group

1104.3.2/Table 1103.1 – Group A2 and B2 Refrigerants (Modification)

- In areas where a refrigerant leak would likely affect habitable space, A2 and B2 refrigerants are prohibited except in restricted quantities

1109.2.7 – Refrigerant Pipe Identification (Modification)

- For Group A2L and B2L refrigerants, the identification marked on the pipe shall include "Warning – Risk of Fire. Flammable Refrigerant."

1209.6 – Radiant Tubing (Addition)

- New requirements have been added to address the installation and identification of radiant tubing as embedded pipe