Hazardous Location of Windows/Glazing

**One & Two Family Dwellings**

**IRC 308.4 - A Guide to Required Locations for Tempered or Safety Glass**

### Located in Doors
- Glazing in swinging doors except jalousies.
- Glazing in fixed and sliding panels of sliding door assemblies and panels in sliding and bi-fold closet door assemblies.
- Glazing in storm doors.
- Glazing in all unframed swinging doors.

### Tubs and Showers
- Glazing in doors and enclosures for hot tubs, whirlpools, saunas, steam rooms, bathtubs and showers. Glazing in any part of a building wall enclosing these compartments where the bottom exposed edge of the glazing is less than 60 inches measured vertically above any standing or walking surface.

### Windows Adjacent to Doors
- Glazing, in an individual fixed or operable panel adjacent to a door where the nearest vertical edge is within a 24-inch arc of the door in a closed position and whose bottom edge is less than 60 inches above the floor or walking surface.
Picture Windows

- Glazing in an individual fixed or operable panel, that meets all of the following conditions:
  - Exposed area of an individual pane larger than 9 square feet.
  - Bottom edge less than 18 inches above the floor.
  - Top edge more than 36 inches above the floor.
  - One or more walking surfaces within 36 inches horizontally of the glazing.

Tempered or Safety Glazing at Railings, Fences, Stairs

- All glazing in railings regardless of an area or height above a walking surface. Included are structural baluster panels and nonstructural infill panels.
- Glazing in walls and fences enclosing indoor and outdoor swimming pools, hot tubs and spas where the bottom edge of the glazing is less than 60 inches above a walking surface and within 60 inches horizontally of the water’s edge. This shall apply to single glazing and all panes in multiple glazing.
- Glazing adjacent to stairways, landings and ramps within 36 inches horizontally of a walking surface when the exposed surface of the glass is less than 60 inches above the plane of the adjacent walking surface.
- Glazing adjacent to stairways within 60 inches horizontally of the bottom tread of a stairway in any direction when the exposed surface of the glass is less than 60 inches above the nose of the tread.

Exceptions

The following products, materials and uses are exempt from the above hazardous locations:

- Openings in doors through which a 3-inch sphere is unable to pass.
- Decorative glass in doors, windows within 24" of doors, and picture windows described above.
- Glazing within 24" of doors when there is an intervening wall or other permanent barrier between the door and the glazing.
- Glazing within 24" of doors in walls perpendicular to the plane of the door in a closed position, other than the wall toward which the door swings when opened, or where access through the door is to a closet or storage area 3 feet or less in depth. This exception does not apply to picture windows as described above.
- Glazing at picture windows and adjacent to stairways, landings, and ramps when a protective bar is installed on the accessible side(s) of the glazing 36 inches ± 2 inches above the floor. The bar shall be capable of withstanding a horizontal load of 50 pounds per linear foot without contacting the glass and be a minimum of 1½ inches in height.
- Outboard panes in insulating glass units and other multiple glazed panels of picture windows, when the bottom edge of the glass is 25 feet or more above grade, a roof, walking surfaces, or other horizontal [within 45 degrees of horizontal] surface adjacent to the glass exterior.
- Louvered windows and jalousies with glazing thickness of at least 3/16" and maximum length of 48".
- Mirrors and other glass panels mounted or hung on a surface that provides a continuous backing support.
- Safety glazing adjacent to stairways, landings, and ramps is not required where:
  - The side of a stairway, landing or ramp has a guardrail or handrail, including balusters or in-fill panels, complying with the provision of Sections 1013 and 1607.7 of the International Building Code; and
  - The plane of the glass is more than 18 inches from the railing; or
  - When a solid wall or panel extends from the plane of the adjacent walking surface to 34 inches to 36 inches above the floor and the construction at the top of that wall or panel is capable of withstanding the same horizontal load as the protective bar.
- Glass block.

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