

CHAPTER 15

EXHAUST SYSTEMS

User notes:

About this chapter: Chapter 15 is specific to exhaust systems related to clothes dryers, domestic cooking, toilet rooms, bathrooms and whole-house ventilation systems. Included are requirements for exhaust discharge locations, protection of exhaust ducts from damage, exhaust duct construction, duct length limits, and exhaust termination clearances. This chapter contains prohibitions for exhaust recirculation and discharge locations and addresses the design of whole-house ventilation systems required by Chapter 3.

Code development reminder: Code change proposals to this chapter will be considered by the IRC—Plumbing/Mechanical Code Development Committee during the 2021 (Group A) Code Development Cycle.

SECTION M1501 GENERAL

M1501.1 Outdoor discharge. The air removed by every mechanical exhaust system shall be discharged to the outdoors in accordance with Section M1504.3. Air shall not be exhausted into an attic, soffit, ridge vent or *crawl space*.

Exception: Whole-house *ventilation*-type attic fans that discharge into the attic space of *dwelling units* having private *attics* shall be permitted.

SECTION M1502 CLOTHES DRYER EXHAUST

M1502.1 General. Clothes dryers shall be exhausted in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

M1502.2 Independent exhaust systems. Dryer exhaust systems shall be independent of all other systems and shall convey the moisture to the outdoors.

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

M1502.3 Duct termination. Exhaust ducts shall terminate on the outside of the building. Exhaust duct terminations shall be in accordance with the dryer manufacturer's installation instructions. If the manufacturer's instructions do not specify a termination location, the exhaust duct shall terminate not less than 3 feet (914 mm) in any direction from openings into buildings, including openings in ventilated soffits. Exhaust duct terminations shall be equipped with a backdraft damper. Screens shall not be installed at the duct termination.

M1502.3.1 Exhaust termination outlet and passageway size. The passageway of dryer exhaust duct terminals shall be undiminished in size and shall provide an open area of not less than 12.5 square inches (8065 mm²).

M1502.4 Dryer exhaust ducts. Dryer exhaust ducts shall conform to the requirements of Sections M1502.4.1 through M1502.4.8.

M1502.4.1 Material and size. Exhaust ducts shall have a smooth interior finish and shall be constructed of metal not less than 0.0157 inch (0.3950 mm) in thickness (No. 28 gage). The duct shall be 4 inches (102 mm) nominal in diameter.

M1502.4.2 Duct installation. Exhaust ducts shall be supported at intervals not to exceed 12 feet (3658 mm) and shall be secured in place. The insert end of the duct shall extend into the adjoining duct or fitting in the direction of airflow. Exhaust duct joints shall be sealed in accordance with Section M1601.4.1 and shall be mechanically fastened. Ducts shall not be joined with screws or similar fasteners that protrude more than 1/8 inch (3.2 mm) into the inside of the duct. Where dryer exhaust ducts are enclosed in wall or ceiling cavities, such cavities shall allow the installation of the duct without deformation.

M1502.4.3 Transition duct. Transition ducts used to connect the dryer to the exhaust *duct system* shall be a single length that is *listed* and *labeled* in accordance with UL 2158A. Transition ducts shall be not greater than 8 feet (2438 mm) in length. Transition ducts shall not be concealed within construction.

M1502.4.4 Dryer exhaust duct power ventilators. Domestic dryer exhaust duct power ventilators shall conform to UL 705 for use in dryer exhaust duct systems. The dryer exhaust duct power ventilator shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

M1502.4.5 Booster fans prohibited. Domestic booster fans shall not be installed in dryer exhaust systems.

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M1502.4.6 Duct length. The maximum allowable exhaust duct length shall be determined by one of the methods specified in Sections M1502.4.6.1 through M1502.4.6.3.

M1502.4.6.1 Specified length. The maximum length of the exhaust duct shall be 35 feet (10 668 mm) from the connection to the transition duct from the dryer to the outlet terminal. Where fittings are used, the maximum length of the exhaust duct shall be reduced in accordance with Table M1502.4.6.1. The maximum length of the exhaust duct does not include the transition duct.

**TABLE M1502.4.6.1
DRYER EXHAUST DUCT FITTING EQUIVALENT LENGTH**

DRYER EXHAUST DUCT FITTING TYPE	EQUIVALENT LENGTH
4-inch radius mitered 45-degree elbow	2 feet 6 inches
4-inch radius mitered 90-degree elbow	5 feet
6-inch radius smooth 45-degree elbow	1 foot
6-inch radius smooth 90-degree elbow	1 foot 9 inches
8-inch radius smooth 45-degree elbow	1 foot
8-inch radius smooth 90-degree elbow	1 foot 7 inches
10-inch radius smooth 45-degree elbow	9 inches
10-inch radius smooth 90-degree elbow	1 foot 6 inches

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm, 1 foot = 304.8 mm, 1 degree = 0.0175 rad.

M1502.4.6.2 Manufacturer's instructions. The size and maximum length of the exhaust duct shall be determined by the dryer manufacturer's installation instructions. The code official shall be provided with a copy of the installation instructions for the make and model of the dryer at the concealment inspection. In the absence of fitting equivalent length calculations from the clothes dryer manufacturer, Table M1502.4.6.1 shall be used.

M1502.4.6.3 Dryer exhaust duct power ventilator. The maximum length of the exhaust duct shall be determined in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions for the dryer exhaust duct power ventilator.

M1502.4.7 Length identification. Where the exhaust duct equivalent length exceeds 35 feet (10 668 mm), the equivalent length of the exhaust duct shall be identified on a permanent *label* or tag. The *label* or tag shall be located within 6 feet (1829 mm) of the exhaust duct connection.

M1502.4.8 Exhaust duct required. Where space for a clothes dryer is provided, an exhaust *duct system* shall be installed. Where the clothes dryer is not installed at the time of occupancy the exhaust duct shall be capped or plugged in the space in which it originates and identified and marked "future use."

Exception: Where a *listed* condensing clothes dryer is installed prior to occupancy of the structure.

M1502.5 Protection required. Protective shield plates shall be placed where nails or screws from finish or other work are likely to penetrate the clothes dryer exhaust duct. Shield plates shall be placed on the finished face of framing members where there is less than 1-1/4 inches (32 mm) between the duct and the finished face of the framing member. Protective shield plates shall be constructed of steel, shall have a minimum thickness of 0.062 inch (1.6 mm) and shall extend not less than 2 inches (51 mm) above sole plates and below top plates.

SECTION M1503 DOMESTIC COOKING EXHAUST EQUIPMENT

M1503.1 General. Domestic cooking exhaust equipment shall comply with the requirements of this section.

M1503.2 Domestic cooking exhaust. Where domestic cooking exhaust equipment is provided, it shall comply with one of the following:

1. The fan for overhead range hoods and downdraft exhaust equipment not integral with the cooking *appliance* shall be *listed* and *labeled* in accordance with UL 507.
2. Overhead range hoods and downdraft exhaust equipment with integral fans shall comply with UL 507.
3. Domestic cooking *appliances* with integral downdraft exhaust equipment shall be *listed* and *labeled* in accordance with ANSI Z21.1 or UL 858.
4. Microwave ovens with integral exhaust for installation over the cooking surface shall be *listed* and *labeled* in accordance with UL 923.

[W] M1503.2.1 Open-top broiler exhaust. Domestic open-top broiler units shall be provided with a metal exhaust hood having a thickness of not less than 0.0157 inch (0.3950 mm) (No. 28 gage). Such hoods shall be installed with a clearance of not less than 1/4 inch (6.4 mm) between the hood and the underside of *combustible material* and cabinets. A clearance of

not less than 24 inches (610 mm) shall be maintained between the cooking surface and *combustible material* and cabinets. The hood width shall be not less than the width of the broiler unit and shall extend over the entire unit.

Exceptions:

1. Broiler units that incorporate an integral exhaust system, and that are *listed* and *labeled* for use without an exhaust hood. ((~~τ~~))
2. Broiler units permanently installed outside the building envelope and having the cooking surface at least 5'0" below a 1-hour fire resistance rated ceiling, shall not be required to have an exhaust hood.

[W] M1503.3 Exhaust discharge. Domestic cooking exhaust equipment shall discharge to the outdoors through a duct. The duct shall have a smooth interior surface, shall be airtight, shall be equipped with a backdraft damper and shall be independent of all other exhaust systems. Ducts serving domestic cooking exhaust equipment shall not terminate in an attic or *crawl space* or areas inside the building.

Exception: Where installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, and where ~~((mechanical or natural ventilation is otherwise provided))~~ continuous local exhaust is provided in an enclosed kitchen in accordance with Table M1505.4.4.1, *listed* and *labeled* ductless range hoods shall not be required to discharge to the outdoors.

M1503.4 Duct material. Ducts serving domestic cooking exhaust equipment shall be constructed of galvanized steel, stainless steel or copper.

Exception: Ducts for domestic kitchen cooking *appliances* equipped with down-draft exhaust systems shall be permitted to be constructed of schedule 40 PVC pipe and fittings provided that the installation complies with all of the following:

1. The duct is installed under a concrete slab poured on grade.
2. The underfloor trench in which the duct is installed is completely backfilled with sand or gravel.
3. The PVC duct extends not more than 1 inch (25 mm) above the indoor concrete floor surface.
4. The PVC duct extends not more than 1 inch (25 mm) above grade outside of the building.
5. The PVC ducts are solvent cemented.

[W] M1503.5 Kitchen exhaust rates. Where domestic kitchen cooking *appliances* are ~~((equipped))~~ provided with ~~((ducted range hoods or down-draft))~~ exhaust ~~((systems))~~ equipment, the fans shall be sized in accordance with Section M1505.4.4.1.

M1503.6 Makeup air required. Where one or more gas, liquid or solid fuel-burning *appliance* that is neither direct-vent nor uses a mechanical draft venting system is located within a dwelling unit's air barrier, each exhaust system capable of exhausting in excess of 400 cubic feet per minute (0.19 m³/s) shall be mechanically or passively provided with makeup air at a rate approximately equal to the exhaust air rate. Such makeup air systems shall be equipped with not fewer than one damper complying with Section M1503.6.2.

Exception: Makeup air is not required for exhaust systems installed for the exclusive purpose of space cooling and intended to be operated only when windows or other air inlets are open.

M1503.6.1 Location. Kitchen exhaust makeup air shall be discharged into the same room in which the exhaust system is located or into rooms or *duct systems* that communicate through one or more permanent openings with the room in which such exhaust system is located. Such permanent openings shall have a net cross-sectional area not less than the required area of the makeup air supply openings.

M1503.6.2 Makeup air dampers. Where makeup air is required by Section M1503.6, makeup air dampers shall comply with this section. Each damper shall be a gravity damper or an electrically operated damper that automatically opens when the exhaust system operates. Dampers shall be located to allow access for inspection, service, repair and replacement without removing permanent construction or any other ducts not connected to the damper being inspected, serviced, repaired or replaced. Gravity or barometric dampers shall not be used in passive makeup air systems except where the dampers are rated to provide the design makeup airflow at a pressure differential of 0.01 in. w.c. (3 Pa) or less.

SECTION M1504 EXHAUST DUCTS AND EXHAUST OPENINGS

M1504.1 Duct construction. Where exhaust duct construction is not specified in this chapter, construction shall comply with Chapter 16.

M1504.2 Duct length. The length of exhaust and supply ducts used with ventilating *equipment* shall not exceed the lengths determined in accordance with Table M1504.2.

Exception: Duct length shall not be limited where the *duct system* complies with the manufacturer's design criteria or where the flow rate of the installed ventilating *equipment* is verified by the installer or *approved* third party using a flow hood, flow grid or other airflow measuring device.

**TABLE M1504.2
DUCT LENGTH**

DUCT TYPE Fan airflow rating (CFM @ 0.25 inch wc ^a)	FLEX DUCT								SMOOTH-WALL DUCT							
	50	80	100	125	150	200	250	300	50	80	100	125	150	200	250	300
Diameter ^b (inches)	Maximum length ^{c, d, e} (feet)															
3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
4	56	4	X	X	X	X	X	X	114	31	10	X	X	X	X	X
5	NL	81	42	16	2	X	X	X	NL	152	91	51	28	4	X	X
6	NL	NL	158	91	55	18	1	X	NL	NL	NL	168	112	53	25	9
7	NL	NL	NL	NL	161	78	40	19	NL	NL	NL	NL	NL	148	88	54
8 and above	NL	NL	NL	NL	NL	189	111	69	NL	NL	NL	NL	NL	NL	198	133

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm, 1 foot = 304.8 mm.

- a. Fan airflow rating shall be in accordance with ANSI/AMCA 210-ANSI/ASHRAE 51.
- b. For noncircular ducts, calculate the diameter as four times the cross-sectional area divided by the perimeter.
- c. This table assumes that elbows are not used. Fifteen feet of allowable duct length shall be deducted for each elbow installed in the duct run.
- d. NL = no limit on duct length of this size.
- e. X = not allowed. Any length of duct of this size with assumed turns and fittings will exceed the rated pressure drop.

[W] M1504.3 Exhaust openings. Air exhaust openings shall terminate as follows:

1. Not less than 3 feet (914 mm) from property lines.
2. Not less than 3 feet (914 mm) from gravity air intake openings, operable windows and doors.
3. Not less than 10 feet (3048 mm) from mechanical air intake openings except where either of the following apply:
 - 3.1. ~~((the))~~ The exhaust opening is located not less than 3 feet (914 mm) above the air intake opening.
 - 3.2. The exhaust opening is part of a factory-built intake/exhaust combination termination fitting installed in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions, and the exhaust air is drawn from a living space.
4. Openings shall comply with Sections R303.5.2 and R303.6.

**SECTION M1505
MECHANICAL VENTILATION**

[W] M1505.1 General. Where local exhaust or whole-house mechanical *ventilation* is provided, the ventilation system shall be designed in accordance with this section.

Exception: Alternate balanced whole-house ventilation systems and local exhaust systems designed and commissioned in accordance with ASHRAE 62.2 are permitted.

M1505.2 Recirculation of air. Exhaust air from bathrooms and toilet rooms shall not be recirculated within a residence or circulated to another *dwelling unit* and shall be exhausted directly to the outdoors. Exhaust air from bathrooms, toilet rooms and kitchens shall not discharge into an attic, *crawl space* or other areas inside the building. This section shall not prohibit the installation of ductless range hoods in accordance with the exception to Section M1503.3.

M1505.3 Exhaust equipment. Exhaust fans and whole-house mechanical ventilation fans shall be *listed* and *labeled* as providing the minimum required airflow in accordance with ANSI/AMCA 210-ANSI/ASHRAE 51.

[W] M1505.4 Whole-house mechanical ventilation system. Each dwelling unit shall be equipped with a ventilation system. ~~((Whole))~~ The whole-house mechanical ventilation systems shall be designed in accordance with Sections M1505.4.1 through M1505.4.4.

M1505.4.1 System design. The whole-house ventilation system shall consist of one or more supply fans, one or more ~~((or))~~ exhaust fans, or ~~((a combination of such))~~ an ERV/HRV with integral fans, and associated ducts and controls. Whole-house mechanical ventilation system supply and exhaust fans shall meet the requirements of Sections M1505.4.1.2, M1505.4.1.3, M1505.4.1.4, and M1505.4.1.5. Local exhaust or supply fans are permitted to serve as ~~((such a))~~ part of the whole-house ventilation system when provided with the proper controls per Section M1505.4.2. ~~((Outdoor air ducts connected to the return side of an air handler shall be considered as providing supply ventilation.))~~ The systems shall be designed and installed to exhaust and/or supply the minimum outdoor airflow rates in accordance with Section M1505.4.3 as modified by whole-house ventilation system coefficients in Section M1505.4.3.1 where applicable. The whole-house ventilation system shall operate continuously at the minimum ventilation rate determined per Section M1505.4.2 unless configured with intermittent off controls per Section M1505.4.3.2.

M1505.4.1.1 Whole-house system component requirements. Whole-house ventilation supply and exhaust fans specified in this section shall have a minimum efficacy as prescribed in the Washington State Energy Code. Design and installation of the system or equipment shall be carried out in accordance with manufacturers' installation instructions. Whole-house ventilation fans shall be rated for sound at no less than the minimum airflow rate required by Section M1505.4.3.1. Ventilation fans shall be rated for sound at a maximum of 1.0 sone. This sound rating shall be at a minimum of 0.1 in. w.c. (25 Pa) static pressure in accordance with HVI procedures specified in Sections M1505.4.1.2 and M1505.4.1.3.

Exception: HVAC air handlers, ERV/HRV units, and remote mounted fans need not meet the sound requirements. To be considered for this exception, a remote mounted fan must be mounted outside the habitable spaces, bathrooms, toilets, and hallways, and there must be at least 4 ft (1.3 m) of ductwork between the fan and the intake grille.

The whole-house supply fan shall provide ducted outdoor ventilation air to each habitable space within the residential unit.

Exception: Interior joining spaces provided with a 30 cfm whole-house transfer fan or a permanent opening with an area of not less than 8 percent of the floor area of the interior adjoining space but not less than 25 square feet do not require ducted outdoor ventilation air to be supplied directly to the space. Whole-house transfer fans shall meet the sone rating of Section M1505.4.1.1 and shall have whole-house ventilation controls that comply with Section M1505.4.2.

M1505.4.1.2 Exhaust fans. Exhaust fans required shall be ducted directly to the outside. Exhaust air outlets shall be designed to limit the pressure difference to the outside and equipped with backdraft dampers or motorized dampers in accordance with the Washington State Energy Code. Exhaust fans shall be tested and rated in accordance with the airflow and sound rating procedures of the Home Ventilating Institute (HVI 915, HVI Loudness Testing and Rating Procedure, HVI 916, HVI Airflow Test Procedure, and HVI 920, HVI Product Performance Certification Procedure, as applicable). Exhaust fans required in this section may be used to provide local ventilation. Bathroom exhaust fans that are designed for intermittent exhaust airflow rates higher than the continuous exhaust airflow rates in Table M1505.4.3.2 shall be provided with occupancy sensors or humidity sensors to automatically override the fan to the high speed airflow rate. The exhaust fans shall be tested and the testing results shall be submitted and posted in accordance with Section M1505.4.1.6.

M1505.4.1.3 Supply fans. Supply fans used in meeting the requirements of this section shall supply outdoor air from intake openings in accordance with IMC Sections 401.4 and 401.5. When designed for intermittent off operation, supply systems shall be equipped with motorized dampers in accordance with the Washington State Energy Code. Supply fans shall be tested and rated in accordance with the airflow and sound rating procedures of the Home Ventilating Institute (HVI 915, HVI Loudness Testing and Rating Procedure; HVI 916, HVI Airflow Test Procedure; and HVI 920, HVI Product Performance Certification Procedure, as applicable). Where outdoor air is provided by supply fan systems the outdoor air shall be filtered. The filter shall be accessible for regular maintenance and replacement. The filter shall have a Minimum Efficiency Rating Value (MERV) of at least 8.

M1505.4.1.4 Balanced whole-house ventilation system. A balanced whole-house ventilation system shall include both supply and exhaust fans. The supply and exhaust fans shall have airflow that is within 10 percent of each other. The tested and balanced total mechanical exhaust airflow rate is within 10 percent or 5 cfm, whichever is greater, of the total mechanical supply airflow rate. The flow rate test results shall be submitted and posted in accordance with Section M1505.4.1.7. The exhaust fan shall meet the requirements of Section M1505.4.1.2. The supply fan shall meet the requirements of Section M1505.4.1.3. Balanced ventilation systems with both supply and exhaust fans in a packaged product, such as an ERV/HRV shall meet the requirements of HVI 920, as applicable. Local exhaust systems that are not a component of the whole-house mechanical ventilation system are exempt from the balanced airflow calculation.

M1505.4.1.5 Furnace integrated supply. Systems using space heating and/or cooling air handler fans for outdoor air supply distribution are not permitted.

Exception: Air handler fans shall have multispeed or variable speed supply airflow control capability with a low speed operation not greater than 25 percent of the rated supply airflow capacity during ventilation only operation. Outdoor air intake openings must meet the provisions of Sections R303.5 and R303.6 and must include a motorized damper that is activated by the whole-house ventilation system controller. The motorized damper must be controlled to maintain the outdoor airflow intake airflow within 10 percent of the whole-house mechanical exhaust airflow rate. The flow rate for the outdoor air intake must be tested and verified at the minimum ventilation fan speed and the maximum heating or cooling fan speed. The results of the test shall be submitted and posted in accordance with Section M1505.4.1.7.

M1505.4.1.6 Testing. Whole-house mechanical ventilation systems shall be tested, balanced and verified to provide a flow rate not less than the minimum required by Sections M1505.4.3 and M1505.4.4.1. Testing shall be performed according to the ventilation equipment manufacturer's instructions, or by using a flow hood, flow grid, or other airflow measuring device at the mechanical ventilation fan's inlet terminals, outlet terminals or grilles or in the connected ventilation ducts. Where required by the building official, testing shall be conducted by an approved third party. A written

report of the results of the test shall be signed by the party conducting the test and provided to the building official and be posted in the dwelling unit per Section M1505.4.1.7.

M1505.4.1.7 Certificate. A permanent certificate shall be completed by the mechanical contractor, test and balance contractor or other approved party and posted on a wall in the space where the furnace is located, a utility room, or an approved location inside the building. When located on an electrical panel, the certificate shall not cover or obstruct the visibility of the circuit directory label, service disconnect label, or other required labels. The certificate shall list the flow rate determined from the delivered airflow of the whole-house mechanical ventilation system as installed and the type of mechanical whole-house ventilation system used to comply with Section M1505.4.3.1.

[W] M1505.4.2 System controls. The whole-house mechanical ventilation system shall be provided with controls that ((enable manual override.)) comply with the following:

1. The whole-house ventilation system shall be controlled with manual switches, timers or other means that provide for automatic operation of the ventilation system that are readily accessible by the occupant;
2. Whole-house mechanical ventilation system shall be provided with controls that enable manual override off of the system by the occupant during periods of poor outdoor air quality. Controls shall include permanent text or a symbol indicating their function. Recommended control permanent labeling to include text similar to the following: "Leave on unless outdoor air quality is very poor." Manual controls shall be readily accessible by the occupant;
3. Whole-house ventilation systems shall be configured to operate continuously except where intermittent off controls and sizing are provided per Section M1505.4.3.2.

((Controls shall include text or a symbol indicating their function.))

[W] M1505.4.3 Mechanical ventilation rate. The whole-house mechanical ventilation system shall provide outdoor air at a continuous rate ((not less than that)) as determined in accordance with Table M1505.4.3(1) or ((not less than that determined by)) Equation 15-1.

$$\text{Ventilation rate in cubic feet per minute} = (0.01 \times \text{total square foot area of house}) + [7.5 \times (\text{number of bedrooms} + 1)]$$

(Equation 15-1)

((Exceptions:

1. ~~Ventilation rate credit. The minimum mechanical ventilation rate determined in accordance with Table M1505.4.3(1) or Equation 15-1 shall be reduced by 30 percent, provided that both of the following conditions apply:~~
 - 1.1. ~~A ducted system supplies ventilation air directly to each bedroom and to one or more of the following rooms:~~
 - 1.1.1. ~~Living room.~~
 - 1.1.2. ~~Dining room.~~
 - 1.1.3. ~~Kitchen.~~
 - 1.2. ~~The whole-house ventilation system is a balanced ventilation system.~~
2. ~~Programmed intermittent operation. The whole-house mechanical ventilation system is permitted to operate intermittently where the system has controls that enable operation for not less than 25 percent of each 4-hour segment and the ventilation rate prescribed in Table M1505.4.3(1), by Equation 15-1 or by Exception 1 is multiplied by the factor determined in accordance with Table M1505.4.3(2).)~~

**((TABLE M1505.4.3(1)
CONTINUOUS WHOLE-HOUSE MECHANICAL VENTILATION SYSTEM AIRFLOW RATE REQUIREMENTS**

DWELLING UNIT FLOOR AREA (square feet)	NUMBER OF BEDROOMS				
	0-1	2-3	4-5	6-7	>7
	Airflow in CFM				
<1,500	30	45	60	75	90
1,501-3,000	45	60	75	90	105
3,001-4,500	60	75	90	105	120
4,501-6,000	75	90	105	120	135
6,001-7,500	90	105	120	135	150
>7,500	105	120	135	150	165

For SI: 1 square foot = 0.0929 m², 1 cubic foot per minute = 0.0004719 m³/s.

**TABLE M1505.4.3(1)
WHOLE-HOUSE MECHANICAL VENTILATION AIRFLOW RATE**

DWELLING UNIT FLOOR AREA (SQUARE FEET)	NUMBER OF BEDROOMS				
	0 - 1	2	3	4	5 OR MORE
	AIRFLOW IN CFM				
< 500	30	30	35	45	50
501 – 1,000	30	35	40	50	55
1,001 – 1,500	30	40	45	55	60
1,501 – 2,000	35	45	50	60	65
2,001 – 2,500	40	50	55	65	70
2,501 – 3,000	45	55	60	70	75
3,001 – 3,500	50	60	65	75	80
3,501 – 4,000	55	65	70	80	85
4,001 – 4,500	60	70	75	85	90
4,501 – 5,000	65	75	80	90	95

M1505.4.3.1 Ventilation quality adjustment. The minimum whole-house ventilation rate from Section 1505.4.3 shall be adjusted by the system coefficient in Table M1505.4.3(2) based on the system type not meeting the definition of a balanced whole-house ventilation system and/or not meeting the definition of a distributed whole-house ventilation system.

$$Q_v = Q_t \times C_{\text{system}} \tag{Equation 15-2}$$

Where:

- Q_v = Quality-adjusted ventilation airflow rate in cubic feet per minute (cfm).
- Q_t = Ventilation airflow rate, cubic feet per minute (cfm) from 15-1 or Table M1505.4.3(1).
- C_{system} = System coefficient from Table M1505.4.3(2).

**TABLE M1505.4.3(2)
SYSTEM COEFFICIENT (C_{system})**

SYSTEM TYPE	DISTRIBUTED	NOT DISTRIBUTED
Balanced	1.0	1.25
Not balanced	1.25	1.5

M1505.4.3.2 Intermittent off operation. Whole-house mechanical ventilation systems shall be provided with advanced controls that are configured to operate the system with intermittent off operation shall operate for a least two hours in each four-hour segment. The whole-house ventilation airflow rate determined in accordance with Section M1505.4.3 as corrected by Section M1505.4.3.1 is multiplied by the factor determined in accordance with Table M1505.4.2.

**TABLE ((M1505.4.3(2))) M1505.4.3.2
INTERMITTENT OFF WHOLE-HOUSE MECHANICAL VENTILATION RATE FACTORS^{a, b}**

RUN-TIME PERCENTAGE IN EACH 4-HOUR SEGMENT	((25%))	((33%))	50%	66%	75%	100%
Factor ^a	((4))	((3))	2	1.5	1.3	1.0

- a. For ventilation system run-time values between those given, the factors are permitted to be determined by interpolation.
- b. Extrapolation beyond the table is prohibited.

[W] M1505.4.4 Local exhaust rates. Local exhaust systems shall be designed to have the capacity to exhaust the minimum airflow rate determined in accordance with Table M1505.4.4.1. If the local exhaust fan is included in the whole-house ventilation system, in accordance with Section 1505.4.1, then the exhaust fan shall be controlled to operate as specified in Section M1505.4.2.

M1505.4.4.1 Local exhaust. Bathrooms, toilet rooms, and kitchens shall include a local exhaust system. Such local exhaust systems shall have the capacity to exhaust the minimum airflow rate in accordance with Table M1505.4.4.1. Fans required by this section shall be provided with controls that enable manual override or automatic occupancy sensor, humidity sensor, timer controls, or pollutant sensor controls. An “on/off” switch shall meet this requirement for manual controls. Manual fan controls shall be readily accessible in the room served by the fan.

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**[W] TABLE M1505.4.4.1
MINIMUM ((REQUIRED)) LOCAL EXHAUST RATES ((FOR ONE- AND TWO-FAMILY DWELLINGS))**

AREA TO BE EXHAUSTED	EXHAUST RATES ^a	
	INTERMITTENT	CONTINUOUS
<u>(Kitchens</u>	<u>100 cfm intermittent or 25 cfm continuous))</u>	<u>—</u>
<u>Open Kitchens</u>	<u>In accordance with Section M1505.4.4.3</u>	<u>Not permitted</u>
<u>Enclosed Kitchens</u>	<u>In accordance with Section M1505.4.4.3</u>	<u>5 ACH based on kitchen volume</u>
Bathrooms-Toilet Rooms	<u>((Mechanical exhaust capacity-of)) 50 cfm ((intermittent or 20 cfm continuous))</u>	<u>20 cfm</u>

For SI: 1 cubic foot per minute = 0.0004719 m³/s, 1 inch water column = 0.2488 kPa.

a. The listed exhaust rate for bathrooms-toilet rooms shall equal or exceed the exhaust rate at a minimum static pressure of 0.25 inch water column in accordance with Section M1505.3.

M1505.4.4.2 Local exhaust fans. Exhaust fans shall meet the following criteria:

1. Exhaust fans shall be tested and rated in accordance with the airflow and sound rating procedures of the Home Ventilating Institute (HVI 915, HVI Loudness Testing and Rating Procedure; HVI 916, HVI Airflow Test Procedure; and HVI 920, HVI Product Performance Certification Procedure).
2. Fan airflow rating and duct system shall be designed and installed to deliver at least the exhaust airflow required by Table M1505.4.4.1. The airflows required refer to the delivered airflow of the system as installed and tested using a flow hood, flow grid, or other airflow measurement device. Local exhaust systems shall be tested, balanced, and verified to provide a flow rate not less than the minimum required by this section.
3. Design and installation of the system or equipment shall be carried out in accordance with manufacturers' installation instructions.
4. Intermittent local exhaust systems serving kitchens shall be rated for sound at a maximum of 3 sones at one or more airflow settings not less than 100 cfm at a static pressure not less than that determined at working speed as specified in HVI 916 Section 7.2.
5. Continuous local exhaust systems serving kitchens shall be rated for sound at a maximum of 1 sones at one or more airflow settings not less than 100 cfm at a static pressure not less than that determined at working speed as specified in HVI 916 Section 7.2.

Exceptions:

1. The installed airflow is not required to be field-verified where exhaust airflow rating at a pressure of 0.25 in. w.g. is used, provided the duct sizing meets the prescriptive requirements of Table M1505.4.4.2.
2. Remote mounted fans need not meet sound requirements. To be considered for this exception, a remote mounted fan shall be mounted outside the kitchen, and there shall be at least 4 feet (1.5 m) of ductwork between the fan and the intake grille.

**TABLE M1505.4.4.2
PRESCRIPTIVE EXHAUST DUCT SIZING**

FAN TESTED CFM AT 0.25 INCHES W.G.	MINIMUM FLEX DIAMETER	MAXIMUM LENGTH IN FEET	MINIMUM SMOOTH DIAMETER	MAXIMUM LENGTH IN FEET	MAXIMUM ELBOWS ^a
<u>50</u>	<u>4 inches</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>4 inches</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>50</u>	<u>5 inches</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>5 inches</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>50</u>	<u>6 inches</u>	<u>No Limit</u>	<u>6 inches</u>	<u>No Limit</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>80</u>	<u>4 inches^b</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>4 inches</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>80</u>	<u>5 inches</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>5 inches</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>80</u>	<u>6 inches</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>6 inches</u>	<u>No Limit</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>100</u>	<u>5 inches^b</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>5 inches</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>100</u>	<u>6 inches</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>6 inches</u>	<u>No Limit</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>125</u>	<u>6 inches</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>6 inches</u>	<u>No Limit</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>125</u>	<u>7 inches</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>7 inches</u>	<u>No Limit</u>	<u>3</u>

a. For each additional elbow, subtract 10 feet from length.

b. Flex ducts of this diameter are not permitted with fans of this size.

M1505.4.4.3 Local intermittent kitchen exhaust system. Kitchen range hoods for domestic cooking appliances shall meet or exceed either the minimum airflow or the minimum capture efficiency in accordance with Table M1505.4.4.3. Capture efficiency ratings shall be determined in accordance with ASTM E3087.

Exception: Other intermittent kitchen exhaust fans, including downdraft, shall meet or exceed 300 cfm airflow.

**TABLE M1505.4.4.3
KITCHEN RANGE HOOD AIRFLOW RATES (cfm) AND ASTM E3087
CAPTURE EFFICIENCY (CE) RATINGS ACCORDING TO KITCHEN RANGE FUEL TYPE**

HOOD OVER ELECTRIC RANGE	HOOD OVER COMBUSTION RANGE
60% CE or 160 cfm	80% CE or 250 cfm

M1505.4.4.3.1 Field verification and diagnostic testing for local intermittent kitchen exhaust system. The local exhaust system for kitchens shall be installed to comply with local mechanical exhaust requirements specified in Section M1505.4.4.3 and shall be field-verified in accordance with the procedures below to confirm the model is rated by HVI or AHAM to comply with the following requirements:

1. Local intermittent exhaust systems for kitchens shall be tested and verified to provide a minimum airflow rate or capture efficiency required by Table M1505.4.4.3. Testing shall include verification of the maximum sound rating as specified in Section M1505.4.4.3.2. Testing for the intermittent kitchen exhaust systems shall occur with the whole-house ventilation system operating and with all dwelling unit or sleeping unit entry doors closed. Testing for exhaust systems that require makeup air in accordance with Section M1503.6 shall include verifying that the mechanical makeup air system is controlled to automatically start. Testing for exhaust systems that do not require mechanical makeup air in accordance with Section M1503.6 and that are exempt from pressurize equalization shall be tested with operable openings manually opened unless design exhaust airflow can be achieved with all operable openings closed. Testing shall be performed according to the ventilation equipment manufacturer's instructions, or by using a flow hood, flow grid, or other airflow measuring device. Where required by the building official, testing shall be conducted by an approved third party. A written report of the results of the test shall be signed by the party conducting the test and provided to the building official.

Exception: The installed airflow is not required to be field-verified where an exhaust airflow rating at a pressure of 0.25 in. w.g. is used, provided the duct sizing meets the prescriptive requirements of Table M1505.4.4.2.

2. The verification shall utilize certified rating data from the HVI Publication 911: Certified Home Ventilating Products Directory, AHAM-Certified Range Hood Directory, or another directory of certified product performance ratings approved by code official for determining compliance. The verification procedure shall consist of visual inspection of the local intermittent kitchen exhaust system to verify and record the following information:
 - 2.1. The manufacturer name and model number.
 - 2.2. The model is listed in the HVI, AHAM or equivalent directory.
 - 2.3. The rated airflow value listed in the HVI, AHAM or equivalent directory.
 - 2.4. The sound rating value listed in the HVI Directory.
 - 2.5. If the value for the rated airflow given in the directory is greater than or equal to the airflow requirements specified in Section M1505.4.4.3 and if the value for the sound rating given in the directory is less than or equal to the sound rating requirements specified in Section M1505.4.4.2, then the local intermittent kitchen exhaust system complies, otherwise the local intermittent kitchen exhaust system does not comply.

