

TABLE 7			ESCAPE & RESCUE: MIN HEIGHT & WIDTH REQUIREMENTS TO MEET REQD 5.7-SQ.-FT. OPENING SIZE (SQ. INCHES)																											
Width	20	20½	21	21½	22	22½	23	23½	24	24½	25	25½	26	26½	27	27½	28	28½	29	29½	30	30½	31	31½	32	32½	33	33½	34	
Height	41	40	39½	38½	37½	36½	35½	35	34½	33½	33	32½	32	31	30½	30	29½	29	28½	28	27½	27	26½	26½	26	25½	25	24½	24	

TABLE 8		ESCAPE & RESCUE: 5.0-SQ.-FT. OPENING: GRADE-FLOOR OPENINGS ONLY (SQ. INCHES)																			
Width	20	20½	21	21½	22	22½	23	23½	24	24½	25	25½	26	26½	27	27½	28	28½	29	29½	30
Height	36	35	34½	33½	33	32	31½	31	30	29½	29	28½	28	27½	27	26½	26	25½	25	24½	24

## EMERGENCY ESCAPE & RESCUE OPENINGS

### Required Locations & Egress Paths

- ☐ Req'd for every sleeping room, basements, & habitable attics EXC **F29** 310.1
  - Storm shelters & mechanical equipment basements ≤ 200 sq. ft. 310.1X1
  - In sprinklered dwellings w/ basement sleeping rooms: either 1 EERO + a means of egress path, or 2 means of egress paths (stairs) 310.1X2
- ☐ Open to public way or yard or court or min 36 in. width path to same 310.1<sup>29</sup>
- ☐ Path under decks min 36 in. clear height & width to yard or court 310.2.4<sup>29</sup>
- ☐ Additions req opening in each sleeping room 310.6
- ☐ Existing basements undergoing alterations or repairs exempt EXC 310.7
  - New basement sleeping rooms req escape & rescue openings 310.7

### Operation & Dimensions of Openings

- ☐ Opening operable
- ☐ Security bars must be removable by special knowledge
- ☐ Window fall prevention devices
- ☐ Min net clear area
  - 5.0 sq. ft. OK
  - 4.0 sq. ft. OK
- ☐ Bottom of clear opening max 44 in. above exterior ground adjacent to opening 310.2.3
- ☐ Min net clear height 24 in., min net clear width 20 in. **T7,8** 310.2.2
- ☐ Replacement windows exempt from height & size reqs if replacement is MFR's largest size that will fit into existing frame or rough opening 310.5

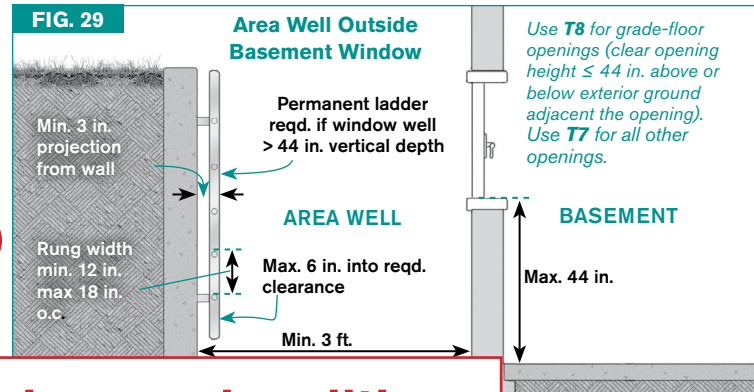
<sup>29</sup> Added width req.

<sup>30</sup> New rule on max height of hardware to unlatch window fall-prevention devices.

<sup>31</sup> New allowance for smaller openings for additions and basement alterations.

<sup>32</sup> Height now measured to actual opening, not simply the window sill.

FIG. 29



21 IRC

310.4  
 Dimensions **F29** 310.4.1  
 Depth **F29** 310.4.2  
 Ladder or stair 310.4.2  
 Space **F29** 310.4.1X

- ☐ Ladder or steps min width 12 in. 310.4.2.1&2
- ☐ Ladder rungs 12–18 in. O.C., min 3 in. projection from wall **F29** 310.4.2.1
- ☐ Steps min tread depth 5 in. max riser height 18 in. 310.4.2.2<sup>33</sup>
- ☐ Covers or bulkheads over wells min 9 sq. ft. & operable from inside 310.4.4
- ☐ Area wells req drainage system unless well-draining Group 1 soils 310.4.3

<sup>33</sup> Rise and run of area well stairs was not specified in previous code.

Changes from the previous code edition are highlighted in the text and explained at the bottom of the page.

Headers

21 IRC

- ☐ Header spans per **T35,36** \_\_\_\_\_ 602.7
- ☐ Min number of full-height studs **F60** adjacent to headers per **T37** \_\_\_\_\_ 602.7.5
- ☐ Single member headers min 2×material, face nail  
12 in. o.c. top & bottom w/ 10d nails **F60** \_\_\_\_\_ 602.7.1
- ☐ Headers not reqd for member OK for spans

Rim Board Header:

- ☐ Rim board headers (header above top plates w/ cripple studs below top plate to top of opening) spans per **T36** \_\_\_\_\_ 602.7.2
- ☐ Number of full height studs each end of rim board headers must be at least the number of studs displaced by ½ the header span \_\_\_\_\_ 602.7.2
- ☐ Joists hangers reqd all joists above rim board header span \_\_\_\_\_ F602.7.2

# 336 Illustrations and 192 Tables

FIG. 60

Headers

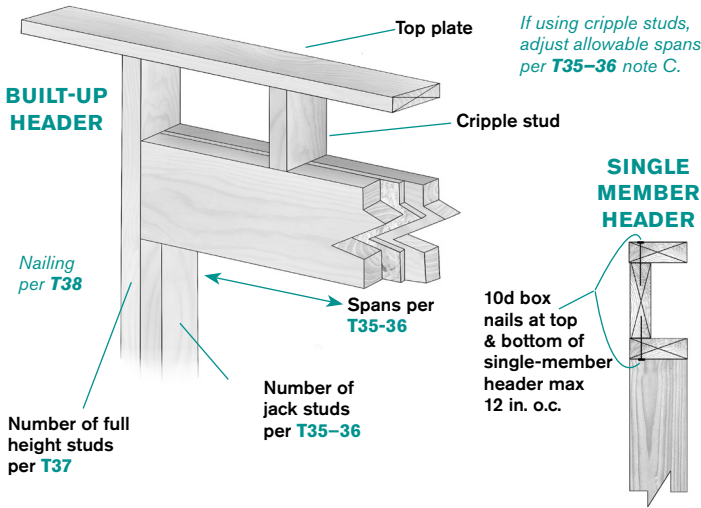


TABLE 35

ALLOWABLE GIRDER & HEADER SPANS FOR INTERIOR BEARING WALLS<sup>A</sup> ♦ T602.7(2)

# and 192 Tables

Header

Bearing Wall

2

Header

Bearing Walls

No. of floors supported	Size	Building Width <sup>B</sup>					
		12 ft.	24 ft.	36 ft.			
				NJ <sup>D</sup>	Span <sup>C</sup>	NJ <sup>D</sup>	
					1	2-4	1
					1	3-6	1
	2-2×8	7-9	1	5-5	1	4-5	2
	2-2×10	9-2	1	6-6	2	5-3	2
	2-2×12	10-9	1	7-7	2	6-3	2
	3-2×8	9-8	1	6-10	1	5-7	1
	3-2×10	11-5	1	8-1	1	6-7	2
	3-2×12	13-6	1	9-6	2	7-9	2
	4-2×8	11-2	1	7-11	1	6-5	1
	4-2×10	13-3	1	9-4	1	7-8	1
	4-2×12	15-7	1	11-0	1	9-0	2
	2-2×4	2-7	1	1-11	1	1-7	1
	2-2×6	3-11	1	2-11	2	2-5	2
	2-2×8	5-0	1	3-8	2	3-1	2
	2-2×10	5-11	2	4-4	2	3-7	2
	2-2×12	6-11	2	5-2	2	4-3	3
	3-2×8	6-3	1	4-7	2	3-10	2
	3-2×10	7-5	1	5-6	2	4-6	2
	3-2×12	8-8	2	6-5	2	5-4	2
	4-2×8	7-2	1	5-4	1	4-5	2
	4-2×10	8-6	1	6-4	2	5-3	2
	4-2×12	10-1	1	7-5	2	6-2	2

A. Based on No. 2 grade Douglas fir-larch, hem-fir, Southern pine, and spruce-pine-fir.  
 B. Building width is measured perpendicular to ridge. For building widths between those shown, spans listed in table are permitted to be interpolated.  
 C. Where top of header not laterally braced (e.g., cripple studs bearing on header as in **F60**), spans for 2 × 8, 2 × 10, or 2 × 12 to be multiplied by 0.70.  
 D. Number of jack studs reqd to support each end. If NJ=1, headers are permitted to be supported by an approved framing anchor to the full-height wall stud.

Showers

- |   | 21 IRC   | 21 UPC  |
|---|----------|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Min. area 900 sq. in. (UPC: 1,024 sq. in.) <b>F67</b> EXC _____  | 2708.1   | 408.6   |
| • Fold-down seats protruding into space must allow the min. 900 sq. in. area w/ seat in folded-up position _____  | 2708.1   | n/a     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Must be able to encompass 30 in. diameter circle from from top of threshold to point 70 in. above drain outlet EXC _____                   | 2708.1   | 408.6   |
| • Shower heads, valves, grab bars & soap dishes allowed to protrude into reqd min. space _____  | 2708.1   | 408.6   |
| • 25 in. cross section OK if area $\geq 1300$ sq. in. _____   | 2708.1X2 | n/a     |
| • Area & dimensions not reqd if min. 30 in. $\times$ 60 in. enclosure _____   | n/a      | 408.6.2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shower walls nonabsorbent to min. 72 in. above drain _____   | 307.2    | local   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> If threshold provided, height min. 1 in. below top of shower receptor membrane & min. 2 in. max. 9 in. above top of drain <b>F68</b> _____ | 2709.1   | 408.6   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> If no threshold, adjacent floor considered a wet location _____  | local    | 408.6   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Door min. 22-in.-wide _____  |          |         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Door must open outward _____   |          |         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finished floor slope min. _____  |          |         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Secure shower valve, h _____   |          |         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shower head cannot di _____  |          |         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Listed anti-scald/press _____  |          |         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Min. 2 in. drain outlet (IR _____  |          |         |

Shower Pan & Liner

- |   |            |           |
|---|------------|-----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Site-built liner materials conform to approved standards _____   | 2709.2     | 408.7     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Slope underlayment $\frac{1}{4}$ in./ft. to weep holes <b>F68</b> _____                                  | 2709.3     | 408.7     |
| • Liner min. 2 in. above dam or threshold (UPC: 3 in.) <b>F68</b> _____   | 2709.2     | 408.7     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pan liner plastic AML or 3 layers hot mop type 15 felt _____   | 2709.2     | 408.7     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Special attention to hot mop corner installation; extend 4 in. all directions from corner _____          | 2709.2.3   | 408.7     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PVC & CPE sheet lining cemented AML _____  | 2709.2.1&2 | 408.7.1&2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Weep holes at drain reqd & must remain clear <b>F68</b> _____  | 2709.4     | 408.7     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No fasteners in liner $< 1$ in. above finished threshold _____   | 2709.3     | 408.7     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Roll over top of rough threshold (no penetrations through top) & fasten to outside edge <b>F68</b> _____ | 2709.3     | 408.7     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water-tight connection between liner and drain flange _____  | 2709.4     | 408.7     |

Testing

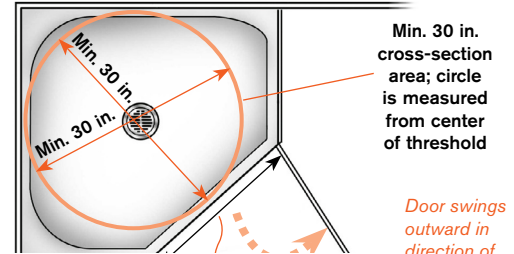
- |   | 21 IRC | 21 UPC  |
|---|--------|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pan leak test min. 2 in. water measured at threshold, min. 15 minutes (UPC: water level $\geq$ rough threshold height) _____ | 2503.6 | 408.7.5 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pan leak test reqs plug (balloon) in pipe below flange _____   | 2503.6 | 408.7.5 |

FIG. 67

Shower Receptor

Overall net area  
IRC: 900 sq. in.  
UPC: 1024 sq. in.

Soap dishes, grab bars, shower heads



# The Plumbing section references the 2021 IRC and the 2021 UPC

Access from race so as not to interfere with wall covering.

Curb 2 in. min. 9 in. max.

Weep holes in drain Clamping ring

Liner slope: min.  $\frac{1}{4}$  in./ft. max.  $\frac{1}{2}$  in./ft.  
Finished floor slope: min.  $\frac{1}{4}$  in./ft. ( $\frac{1}{8}$  in./ft. UPC) max.  $\frac{1}{2}$  in./ft.

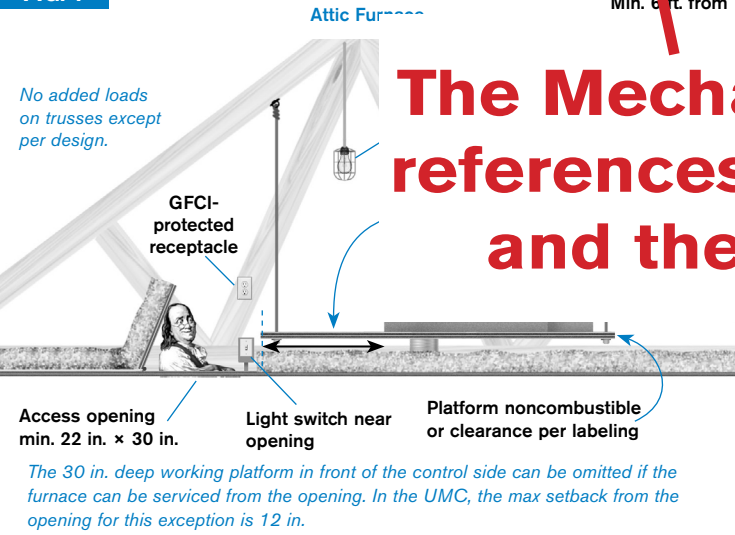
## Appliances in Attics F1

	21 IRC	21 UMC
<input type="checkbox"/> Appliance must fit through access opening _____	1305.1.2	304.4
<input type="checkbox"/> Opening & passageway min 22 in. wide x 30 in. high _____	1305.1.2	304.4
<input type="checkbox"/> Max 20 ft. from access opening to appliance EXC _____	1305.1.2	304.4.1
• If passageway ≥ 6 ft. high 50 ft. length (UMC: no limit) _____	1305.1.2X2	304.4.1
<input type="checkbox"/> Solid floor min 24 in. wide to equipment _____	1305.1.2	304.4.2
<input type="checkbox"/> Min 30-in. x 30-in. platform at service area EXC _____	1305.1.2	304.4.3
• Not reqd if equipment can be serviced from opening _____	1305.1.2X1	304.4.3X
• UMC: max 1 ft. setback if serviced from opening _____	n/a	304.4.3X
<input type="checkbox"/> Floor under furnace noncombustible construction EXC _____	2449.4	904.3
• Not reqd if appliance L&L for combustible floor _____	2449.4	904.3X
• Not reqd if floor protected in approved manner _____	2449.4	904.3X1

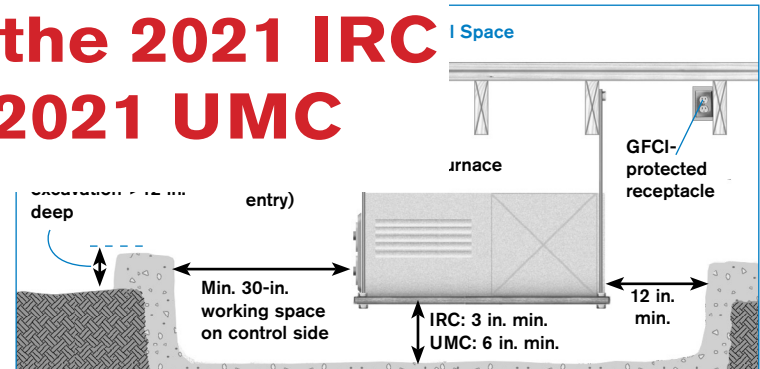
## Appliances Below Floors

	21 IRC	21 UMC
<input type="checkbox"/> Access opening min size 22 in. x 30 in. _____	1305.1.3	304.4
<input type="checkbox"/> Appliance must fit through opening _____	1305.1.3	304.4
<input type="checkbox"/> Passageway min 22 in. wide (UMC: min 24 in.) _____	1305.1.3	304.4.2
<input type="checkbox"/> Passageway max 20 ft. long EXC _____	1305.1.3	304.4.1
• Passageway ≥ 6 ft. high OK for unlimited length _____	1305.1.3X2	304.4.1
<input type="checkbox"/> Min 30-in. x 30-in. level space on service side <b>F2</b> _____	1305.1.3	304.4.3
<input type="checkbox"/> Support on concrete slab min 3 in. above adjoining ground or suspend from floor AMI & min 6 in. above ground <b>F2</b> _____	1305.1.3.1	904.3.1
<input type="checkbox"/> Excavations min 3 in. (UMC: 6 in.) below appliance, 12 in. on sides, 30 in. on control side <b>F2</b> _____	1305.1.3.2	305.2
<input type="checkbox"/> If excavation > 12 in. below adjacent grade, line w/ concrete extending 4 in. above adjacent grade <b>F2</b> _____	1305.1.3	305.2
<input type="checkbox"/> Luminaires & receptacles outlet near appliance <b>F2</b> _____	1305.1.3.3	304.4.4
• e _____	1305.1.3.3	304.4.4
• <b>F2</b> _____	1305.1.3.3	n/a
• OI protection 3902.4	NEC 210.8	

FIG. 1



# The Mechanical section references the 2021 IRC and the 2021 UMC



## FREESTANDING FIREPLACE STOVES (SOLID FUEL)

The IRC (section 1414.1) requires fireplace stoves to be listed, labeled & tested in accord with UL 737, which in turn references the current edition of NFPA 211. UMC section 902.10 refers to NFPA 211 for solid-fuel burning appliances. The rules for clearance, protection, & clearance reductions are virtually identical among the IRC, UMC, and NFPA 211.

### Fireplace Stoves & Solid-Fuel Room Heaters

### NFPA 211

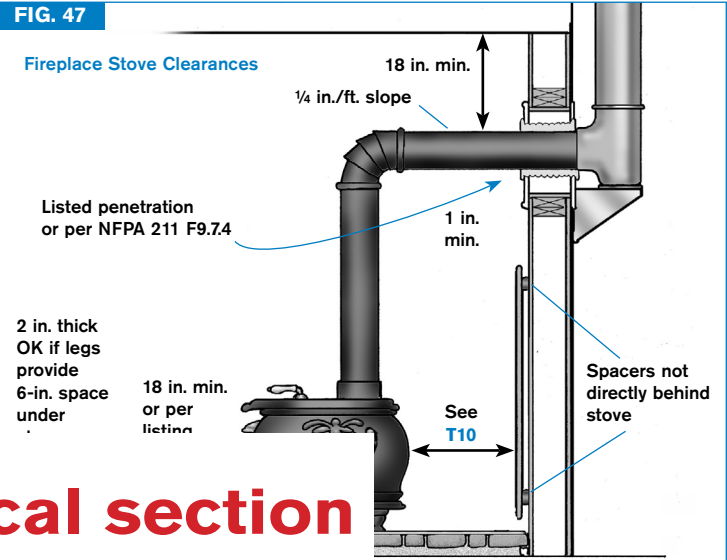
- ☐ Equipment must be listed & installed per L&L or be approved by AHJ \_\_\_\_\_ 13.1
- ☐ Unlisted equipment must be approved & installed AMI \_\_\_\_\_ 13.1.1
- ☐ No unlisted equipment in mobile homes \_\_\_\_\_ 13.1.2
- ☐ Not in alcove or enclosed space <512 cu. ft. unless listed for same \_\_\_\_\_ 13.2.2
- ☐ Not OK in garages or where flammable vapors or liquids present \_\_\_\_\_ 13.2.3&4
- ☐ Listed appliances OK on combustible floors if per L&L & AMI \_\_\_\_\_ 13.5.1.1
- ☐ Noncombustible floor material 18 in. beyond stove on all sides EXC \_\_\_\_\_ 13.5.1.4
  - L&L floor protection assemblies OK AMI \_\_\_\_\_ 13.5.1.5
- ☐ Unlisted appliance floor protection \_\_\_\_\_ 13.5.1.4
  - If legs provide  $\geq 6$  in. of ventile \_\_\_\_\_ 13.5.1.4
  - If legs provide  $\geq 2$  in. to <6 in. hollow masonry + metal, cores \_\_\_\_\_ 13.5.1.4
- ☐ If legs provide <2 in. clearance, \_\_\_\_\_ 13.5.1.4
- ☐ Fuel storage (firewood) min 36 \_\_\_\_\_ 13.5.1.4
- ☐ 36-in. side, top & front clearanc \_\_\_\_\_ 13.5.1.4
  - Listed appliance clearance to \_\_\_\_\_ 13.5.1.4
  - Reduced clearances OK per \_\_\_\_\_ 13.5.1.4

### Connectors

- ☐ Must be accessible for inspection, cleaning & replacement \_\_\_\_\_ 9.7.10
- ☐ Single wall min 18-in. clearance to combustibles EXC **F47** \_\_\_\_\_ T9.5.1.1
  - Lesser clearance w/ approved clearance-reduction system **T10** \_\_\_\_\_ 9.5.1.2.1
- ☐ Not to pass through wall EXC \_\_\_\_\_ 9.7.4
  - Listed pass-through system \_\_\_\_\_ 9.7.4
  - Pass-through system constructed per NFPA 211 figure 9.7.4 \_\_\_\_\_ 9.7.4
- ☐ Maintain min  $\frac{1}{4}$  in./ft. rise from appliance collar to chimney \_\_\_\_\_ 9.7.6

FIG. 47

### Fireplace Stove Clearances



*l to the safe long-term operation of all in allow heat transfer to adjacent com-wood and lowers its ignition tempera- result in a fire.*

**The Mechanical section also references NFPA and ASHRAE codes**

### only Fireplaces

### NFPA 211

- ☐ Connector must extend to true inner—not just to firebox \_\_\_\_\_ 13.4.5.1
- ☐ If connector enters direct through chimney wall above smoke chamber, noncombustible seal reqd below entry \_\_\_\_\_ 13.4.5.1
- ☐ No dilution of combustion products in flue w/ habitable space air \_\_\_\_\_ 13.4.5.1
- ☐ Flue not less than size of appliance collar \_\_\_\_\_ 13.4.5.1
- ☐ Flue diameter max  $2 \times$  appliance collar if chimney walls exposed to exterior below roof,  $3 \times$  if no part exposed below roof \_\_\_\_\_ 13.4.5.1
- ☐ Installation must allow for chimney inspection & cleaning \_\_\_\_\_ 13.4.5.1

## GROUNDING ELECTRODES

Proper grounding & bonding of electrical systems is essential for safety. These two different but related subjects are commonly misunderstood, even by veteran electricians. Connecting the system to earth helps to limit the voltage imposed by lightning, line surges, or accidental contact with higher voltage lines. It stabilizes a system and reduces electrical “noise” on communications systems. Grounding electrodes are the metallic components within the earth to which we connect electrical systems, including one of the current-carrying conductors of the system. Common grounding electrodes in residential construction are metal underground water piping, ground rods, and concrete-encased electrodes. Other types include ground rings, metal plates, metal well casings, listed grounding electrode systems, underground tanks, and the steel frame of a building connected to earth as shown below. Gas piping is not an acceptable grounding electrode.

### Grounding Electrode System (GES) F5 21 IRC 20 NEC

- ☐ Use all electrodes that are available on premises EXC \_\_\_\_ 3608.1 250.50
  - Concrete-encased electrode of existing building need not be included if not accessible w/o disturbing concrete \_\_\_\_ 3608.1.X 250.50X
- ☐ Bond all electrodes together to form the GES \_\_\_\_ 3608.1 250.50
- ☐ Metal underground gas piping system electrodes & pool or spa shell bonding permitted as grounding electrodes \_\_\_\_

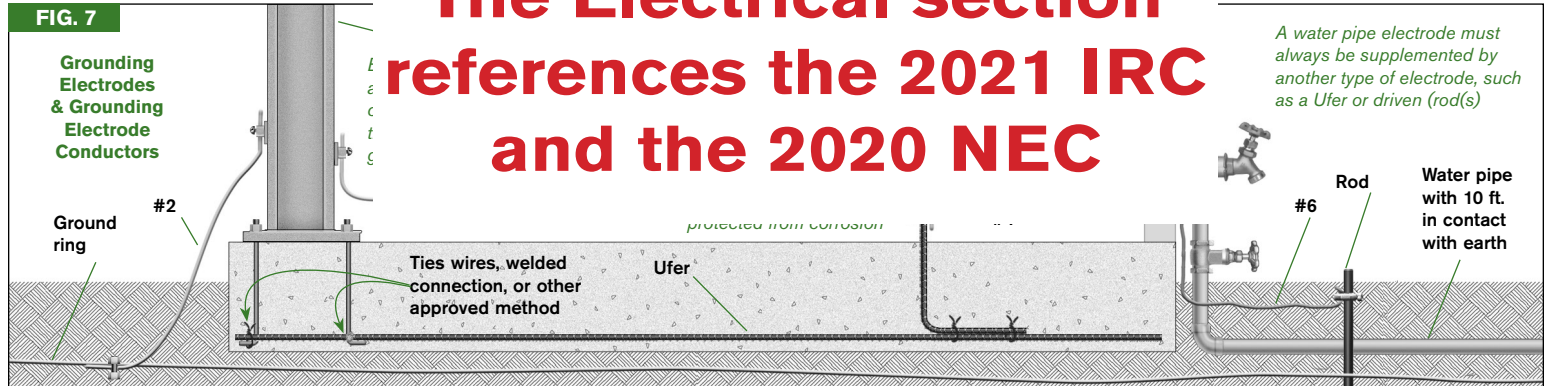
### Water Pipe Electrodes

- |   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Use metal water pipe if $\geq 10$ ft. in contact w/ soil F5 ____ 3608.1.1                                      | 21 IRC 250.52A1 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bond around water meters, filters, pressure regulators & similar equipment ____ 3608.1.1.2                     | 250.53D1        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water pipe cannot be the sole electrode – it must be supplemented by another type of electrode ____ 3608.1.1.2 | 250.53D2        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Metal well casing electrodes req bonding around insulating joints or pipes ____ 3608.1.1                       | 250.52A8        |

### Rod & Plate Electrodes

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Copper-clad rods min. $\frac{5}{8}$ in. diameter unless listed ____ 3608.1.4                          | 250.52A5b |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rods min. 8 ft. in contact w/ soil F5 ____ 3608.1.4.1   | 250.53A4  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drive rods vertical & fully below grade EXC ____ 3608.1.4.1   | 250.53A4  |
| • If bedrock encountered, rod may be buried horizontally 2½ ft. deep or driven at max. 45° angle from vertical ____ 3608.1.4.1 | 250.53A4  |
| • Rod end & clamps above ground req protection against physical damage ____ 3608.1.4.1   | 250.53A4  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ferrous plates min. $\frac{1}{4}$ in. thick, ____ 3608.1.5  | 250.52A7  |
| of earth ____ 3608.1.5   | 250.53A5  |

# The Electrical section references the 2021 IRC and the 2020 NEC





Grounding & Bonding

20 NEC

- ☐ Provide terminal bar for grounding & bonding **F90** EXC \_\_\_\_\_ 450.10A
- ☐ Terminal bar may not block ventilation openings **F90** \_\_\_\_\_ 450.10A
- ☐ Size primary conductor EGCs per **T16** \_\_\_\_\_ 250.122
- ☐ Size grounded conductor of secondary & SBJ per **T52** \_\_\_\_\_ 250.28D1
- ☐ Size SSBJ per **T52** \_\_\_\_\_ 250.30A2
- ☐ Size GEC per **T52** \_\_\_\_\_ 250.30A5
- ☐ GEC to connect to same GES as building \_\_\_\_\_ 250.30A4
- ☐ Multiple separately derived systems may use common GEC \_\_\_\_\_ 250.30A6
- ☐ Common GEC can be 3/0 Cu or 250kcmil AL wire. metal water pipe ≤ 5 ft. of entry into building, or
- ☐ Bond SDS to metal pipe

TABLE 52 MIN JUM

Largest Ungrounded C Area for Parallel Condu

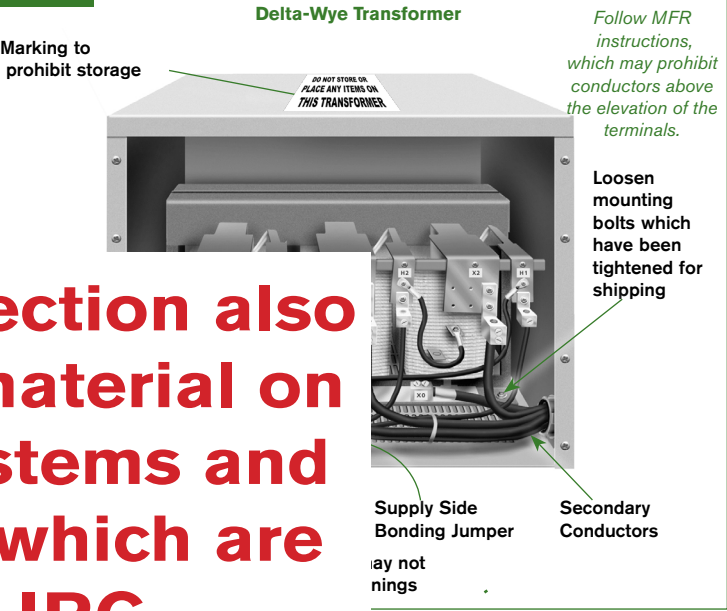
Cu	
≤ 2	
1 or 1/0	
2/0 or 3/0	
4/0–350kcmil	
> 350–600kcmil	

> 600–1100kcmil	> 900–1750kcmil	2/0	4/0
> 1100kcmil	> 1750kcmil	Notes C & D	

- A. The scope includes main bonding jumpers, system bonding jumpers & supply-side bonding jumpers.
- B. Services w/ multiple service disconnect enclosures or separately derived systems w/ multiple sets of secondary conductors may size the bonding jumper based on areas of conductors in each set.
- C. Min. 12½% of area of largest supply conductors or equivalent area for parallel conductors; need not be larger than largest ungrounded conductor or set of ungrounded conductors.
- D. If ungrounded conductors & bonding jumper of different materials, base bonding jumper size on size of equivalent ungrounded conductors of same material as bonding jumper.

The Electrical section also has extensive material on commercial systems and photovoltaics, which are not in the IRC

FIG. 90



20 NEC

- Each ungrounded (neutral) conductor reqd to connect to supply & derived circuits EXC \_\_\_\_\_ 210.9 & 215.11
  - OK w/o grounded (neutral) conductor for 208V:240V or 240V:208V (open delta configurations) \_\_\_\_\_ 210.9X1 & 215.11X1
- ☐ Each ungrounded input conductor reqs OCPD \_\_\_\_\_ 450.4A
- ☐ OCPD ≤ 125% of max. rated full-load current of autotransformer EXC 450.4A
  - If 125% & ≥ 9A & between standard sizes, next higher size allowed 450.4A
- ☐ OCPD not to be in series w/ between shunt winding terminals \_\_\_\_\_ 450.4A