



City of San Ramon
Building and Safety Services

2401 Crow Canyon Road, San Ramon, CA 94583

Office: (925) 973-2580 Fax (925) 838-2821

E-mail: Building@sanramon.ca.gov

Website: www.sanramon.ca.gov

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LAUNDRY ROOM REMODEL

Applicable codes are the 2019 editions of the California Residential Code (CRC), California Electrical Code (CEC), California Plumbing Code (CPC), California Mechanical Code (CMC), California Energy Code (CNC), and the California Green Building Standards Code (GRN).

Permits:

- A plumbing permit shall not be required if the plumbing fixtures are being replaced in the same location and no plumbing alteration is made.
- An electrical permit shall not be required for replacing outlets, switches or appliances in the same locations and where no alteration is made.
- A mechanical permit is not required to replace a recirculating hood/fan that does not have an outside air vent.
- Any added or new electrical, plumbing, or mechanical work shall require a permit.
- A building permit shall not be required for replacement of countertops and cabinets or re-facing of cabinets. A building permit shall be required if more than 32 square feet of wall and/or ceiling finishes are removed and replaced.

Electrical:

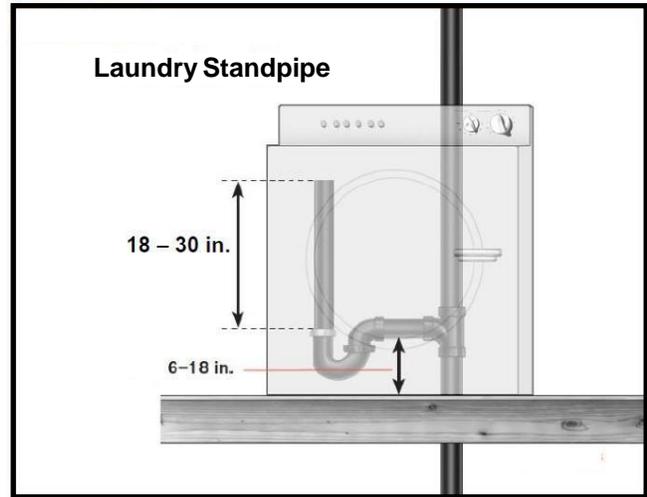
- All new or altered lighting shall be high efficacy. [CNC 150.0(k)1A]
- At least one light shall be controlled by a vacancy sensor (a manual-on, automatic-off occupancy sensor). [CNC 150.0(k)2AJ]
- All 125-volt receptacles in laundry areas shall be GFCI protected, including the clothes washer receptacle. [CEC 210.8A10].
- Receptacle outlets shall be tamper-resistant except those within dedicated space for an appliance not easily moved from one place to another (behind clothes washer). [CEC 406.12A]
- A separate 20-amp circuit shall be required for the laundry equipment. The lights and other receptacles in the room shall not be on that circuit [CEC 210C2].
- All circuits supplying outlets or devices in the laundry room shall be AFCI protected [CEC210.12A]

Plumbing:

- ☐ Clothes washer standpipes shall be a 2-inch diameter. The weir of the trap shall be roughed in 6 - 18 inches above the floor; the standpipe shall be a minimum of 18 and a maximum of 30 inches above the trap [CPC 804.1].

Mechanical:

- ☐ Clothes dryers in closets require a minimum of 100 sq. in. of makeup air, which can be supplied by louvers or undercutting the door [CMC 504.4.1].
- ☐ Dryer ducts shall be smooth-walled metal 4-inch diameter and not more than 14 feet in length, with an allowance of 2 90° bends in that 14 ft. Deduct 2 ft. for each additional 90° bend in excess of 2 [CMC 504.4.2.1].
- ☐ Ducts shall not pass through plenums or be shared with other systems or vents. They shall not be connected with screws that penetrate the duct interior [CMC 504.4].
- ☐ Dryer ducts shall terminate on the building exterior in a backdraft damper. Screens or louvers shall not be installed [CMC 504.4].
- ☐ Flexible transition ducts (connectors) between the dryer and the metal duct are allowed in lengths up to 6 feet and shall not be concealed within construction [CMC 504.4.2.2 exception]. They shall be UL listed and labeled (L&L) as dryer transition ducts, and shall not be plastic.



Dryer Exhaust Ducts

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) estimates that up to 16,000 home fires a year originate at clothes dryers. Common causes of these fires are lint buildup from improperly installed or maintained exhaust ducts. Ducts must be rigid metal. Screws should not penetrate the duct as they accumulate lint which leads to blockage. Join ducts with the male end in the direction of air flow.

The diagram shows a clothes dryer connected to a rigid metal exhaust duct. The duct runs horizontally and then turns 90 degrees to exit the building. A backdraft damper is installed at the exterior end. Text labels include: "Length 14 ft. maximum with up to 2 90° bends. Deduct 2 ft. for each additional 90°.", "Transition ducts metal, listed & labeled, & not concealed", "Backdraft Damper", and "End outside & no screens".

Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms

☐ **Smoke Detectors:** When a permit is required for alterations, repairs or additions exceeding \$1,000, existing dwellings that have attached garages or fuel burning appliances, smoke detectors shall be installed: (a) in each sleeping room, (b) outside each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms, (c) on each story of the dwelling, including basements and habitable attics but not including crawl spaces and uninhabitable attics. Specify on the plans. (CRC Sec. R314). Smoke Alarms (CRC R314.5) shall receive their primary power from the building wiring where such wiring is served from a commercial source and shall be equipped with a battery backup.

☐ **Carbon Monoxide Alarms:** When a permit is required for alterations, repairs or additions exceeding \$1,000, existing dwellings that have attached garages or fuel burning appliances shall be provided with a carbon monoxide alarm in the following locations: (a) outside of the dwelling unit sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedroom(s); (b) on every level of a dwelling unit including basements. Specify on the plans. (CRC Sec.R315). Carbon Monoxide Alarms (R315.5) shall receive their primary power from the building wiring where such wiring is served from a commercial source and, where primary power is interrupted shall receive power from a battery. Carbon Monoxide Alarms (CRC R315.5, Exceptions) shall be permitted to be battery-powered or plug-in with battery backup in existing buildings built prior to January 1, 2011.

