

MECHANICAL CODE MANUAL LOS ANGELES COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING AND SAFETY DIVISION Based on the LACMC

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REQUIRED EXHAUST FANS IN RESIDENCES

Section 1202.5.2.1 of the Los Angeles County Building Code requires an exhaust fan to be installed in bathrooms (with bathing facilities, such as bathtubs or showers) and references the County of Los Angeles Mechanical Code (LACMC) Table 403.7. Table 403.7 requires an exhaust fan with 50 cfm capacity for the bathroom and an exhaust fan with 50 cfm capacity for a toilet room. If the bathing facility and the toilet are in the same room, one (1) fan would be required with 50 cfm capacity. However, if the toilet is enclosed by a door and is separated from the bathing area, two (2) fans would then be required, each with a capacity of 50 cfm. One would serve the bathing area and the other would serve the enclosed toilet room.

In bathrooms with bathtubs, showers, or tub/shower combinations where the exhaust fan is not part of the whole house ventilation system, a humidistat shall be provided per section 4.506.1 of the Los Angeles County Green Building Code.

Table 403.7 of the LACMC also requires that residential kitchens be equipped with an exhaust fan with at least 100 cfm exhaust capacity. If the range has an exhaust hood with an exhaust fan to outdoors, please ensure that the fan capacity is at least 100 cfm. The LACMC requires 50 cfm when a continuous exhaust fan is installed. However, the energy standards require compliance with ASHRAE 62.2, which mandates 5 air changes. Care must be taken to ensure the more restrictive requirement is met. Recirculating range hoods are not in compliance with this requirement and cannot be used.

For new low-rise residential buildings (3-stories or less), additions over 1,000 square feet, and high-rise residential buildings, Sections 150.0(o) and 160.2(b) of the Energy Standards requires a fan (that could be one of the above required fans) to run continuously to comply with the indoor air quality requirements of the Energy Code (fan may be controlled by a labeled override switch). The capacity of the fan is dependent on the floor area of the dwelling unit.

 $Minimum\ Ventilation\ Rate = 0.03*(Floor\ Area) + 7.5*(\#\ of\ Bedrooms + 1)$

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