



Shaping Tomorrow's Built Environment Today

Standard 62.2

ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 62.2, Ventilation and Acceptable Indoor Air Quality in Residential Buildings

Purpose

Defines the roles of and minimum requirements for mechanical and natural ventilation systems and the building envelope intended to provide acceptable indoor air quality in residential dwelling units.

Significance

Standard 62.2 helps ensure air inside dwelling units (homes, condos, apartment units, etc.) is acceptable for occupants by limiting sources of pollutants and requiring enough mechanical ventilation to provide dilution for unavoidable contaminants. The standard ensures that heating, ventilating and air-conditioning systems work together to effectively ventilate homes and minimize sources of indoor pollution. This is the only voluntary sector standard in the United States that addresses air quality in dwelling units. The standard is the basis for code requirements in the International Code Council's International Residential and Mechanical Codes and the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials' Uniform Mechanical Code as well as federal, state and local regulations.

Scope

Applies to spaces intended for human occupancy within single-family houses and multi-family structures (e.g. condos and apartments), including manufactured and modular houses. It does not apply to transient housing such as hotels, motels, nursing homes, dormitories or jails. The standard applies to both new and existing buildings.

Facts:

- Requires continuously operating whole-house mechanical ventilation systems. In specific circumstances natural or intermittent ventilation or infiltration may be used instead.
- Includes requirements for ventilation equipment, windows, air handlers and equipment that burns fossil fuels.
- Contains requirements to control pollutant sources associated with chemical, physical and biological contaminants.
- A national voluntary consensus standard developed under the auspices of ASHRAE. Consensus is defined by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), of which ASHRAE is a member and which has approved this standard as an American National Standard. It is revised through publication of addenda using a continuous maintenance process that includes public review of each proposed addendum.
- Written in code-compatible language, allowing for easier adoption by standards development organizations as well as federal, state and local agencies.
- Referenced by Centers for Disease Control and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, *The Surgeon General's Call to Action to Promote Healthy Homes*.
- Additional guidance on achieving good IAQ, such as information on envelope and system design, material selection, commissioning and installation, and operation and maintenance is available in the companion Guideline 24-2015, *Ventilation and Indoor Air Quality in Residential Buildings*.

Other ASHRAE standards related to IAQ include Standard 62.1, *Ventilation and Acceptable Indoor Air Quality*, and Standard 170, *Ventilation of Health Care Facilities*.