



# CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT BUILDING DIVISION

100 Civic Center Drive | P.O. Box 1768 | Newport Beach, CA 92658-8915  
[www.newportbeachca.gov](http://www.newportbeachca.gov) | (949) 644-3200

### RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

**Applicable Standards: 2022 California Residential Code (CRC); 2022 California Building Code (CBC); 2022 California Plumbing Code (CPC); 2022 California Electrical Code (CEC); 2022 California Mechanical Code (CMC); 2022 Building Energy Efficiency Standards (BEES); 2022 California Green Building Standards Code (Cal Green); & Chapter 15 of the Newport Beach Municipal Code (NBMC)**

#### **GENERAL:**

1. Residential building undergoing permitted alterations, additions or improvements shall replace non-compliant plumbing fixtures with water-conserving plumbing fixtures meeting the requirements of 2022 California Green Building Standards Code, Section 4.303.1 Plumbing fixture replacement is required prior to issuance of a certificate of occupancy or final inspection by the Chief Building Official. (Civil Code, Section 1101.1 et seq., NBMC 15.11.010)
2. Issuance of a building permit by the City of Newport Beach does not relieve applicants of the legal requirements to observe covenants, conditions and restrictions, which may be recorded against the property or to obtain plans. You should contact your community associations prior to commencement of any construction authorized by this permit.
3. Prior to performing any work in the city right-of-way an encroachment permit must be obtained from the Public Works Department.
4. A site survey by a licensed surveyor shall be required prior to foundation concrete pour.
5. Garage ceiling height. The minimum unobstructed vertical clearance for parking spaces shall be seven feet, except that the front four feet may have a minimum vertical clearance of four feet. (NBMC 20.40.090 A 4)
6. Utilize one of the city's approved franchise hauler to recycle and/or salvage a minimum of 65% of the nonhazardous construction and demolition waste. (Cal Green 4.408.1, 4.408.3)
7. Stairways shall not be less than 36 inches clear width. (CRC 311.7.1) The minimum head clearance shall be 6"-8" measured vertically from the sloped line adjoining tread nosing. (CRC 311.7.2)
8. Advisory Note: Homeowners Association (HOA) approval is independent of the City process and may be required for this improvement. Please check with the HOA Board.
9. Additional permits are required for detached structures including but not limited to:
  - a. Accessory structures, detached patio covers, and trellises,
  - b. Masonry or concrete fences over 3.5 ft. high or within 3 feet of the property line,
  - c. Retaining walls over 4 ft. high from the bottom of the foundation to the top of the wall and any retaining wall within 3 ft. of property line regardless of height.

- d. Electrical and Plumbing for exterior improvements detached from the house (i.e. barbeque, fountain, fire feature)

### **CONSTRUCTION:**

10. Pedestrian protection adjacent to public way to be as follows:

<b>CBC TABLE 3306.1 PROTECTION OF PEDESTRIANS</b>		
<b>HEIGHT OF CONSTRUCTION</b>	<b>DISTANCE FROM CONSTRUCTION TO LOT LINE</b>	<b>TYPE OF PROTECTION REQUIRED</b>
8 feet or less	Less than 5 feet	Construction railings
	5 feet or more	None
More than 8 feet	Less than 5 feet	Barrier and covered walkway
	5 feet or more, but not more than one-fourth the height of construction	Barrier and covered walkway
	5 feet or more, but between one-fourth and one-half the height of construction	Barrier
	5 feet or more, but exceeding one-half the height of construction	None

11. All exterior lath and plaster shall have two layers of 10-minute Grade D paper over wood-based sheathing. (CRC R703.7.3, CBC 2510.6)
12. Wall covering of showers or tubs with showers shall be of cement plaster, tile, or approved equal, to a height of not less than 72 inches above drain inlet. Backing for tile shall be cement board or cement plaster. (CRC R307.2, CBC 1209.2.3)
13. Safety glazing shall be provided at the following hazardous locations: (CRC R308.4, CBC 2406.4)
  - a. Swinging, bi-fold, and sliding doors.
  - b. When located within 60 inches above the floor of wet surfaces such as tubs, showers, saunas, steam rooms, or outdoor swimming pool.
  - c. Glazing adjacent to doors:
    - i. Within a 24-inch arc of either vertical edge of doors or within 60 inches of walking surface.
    - ii. Where the glazing is on a wall perpendicular to the plane of the door in a closed position and within 24 inches of the hinge side of an in-swinging door.
  - d. Where glazing area is more than 9 sq. ft. in area, with the bottom edge less than 18 inches above the floor, top edge more than 36 inches above floor, and within 36 inches of a walking surface, measured horizontally.
  - e. Glazing where the bottom exposed edge of the glazing is less than 36 inches above the plane of the adjacent walking surface of stairways, landings between flights of stairs and ramps.
  - f. Glazing adjacent to the landing at the bottom of a stairway where the glazing is less than 36 inches above the landing and within 60 inches horizontally of the bottom tread.
  - g. Glazing in guards and railings.
14. All doors and operable windows with sill height less than 48 inches above the indoor finished floor from the house into the pool area shall be equipped with an approved alarm or an approved alternate drowning prevention safety feature. (CBC 3109 (115922))
15. Smoke alarms shall be installed in the following locations (CRC R314.3, CBC 907.2.11.2, 907.2.11.3 & 907.2.11.4):

- a. In each sleeping room.
  - b. Outside each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms.
  - c. On each additional story, including basements and habitable attics.
  - d. Not less than 3 feet horizontally from the door or opening of a bathroom that contains a bathtub or shower.
  - e. A minimum of 20 feet horizontally from any permanently installed cooking appliance.
  - f. Smoke alarms shall be hardwired with battery back-up and interconnected unless exempted in accordance with CRC R314.4 & R314.5 or CBC 907.2.11.5 & 907.2.11.6.
16. Carbon monoxide alarms shall be installed in the following locations (CRC R315.3):
- a. Outside of each sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedroom(s).
  - b. On every occupiable level of the dwelling unit including basements.
  - c. Where a fuel-burning appliance is located within a bedroom or its attached bathroom, a carbon monoxide alarm shall be installed within the bedroom.
- Carbon monoxide alarms shall be hardwired with battery back-up and interconnected unless exempted in accordance with CRC R315.6(4).
17. Newly constructed dwellings shall comply with Aging-in-place and fall prevention (CRC R327):
- a. At least one bathroom on the entry level shall be provided with reinforcement for grab bars, where there is no bathroom on the entry level, at least one bathroom on the second or third floor of the dwelling shall comply with CRC R327.1.1.
  - b. Electrical receptacle outlets, switches and controls shall be located no more than 48" measured from the top of the outlet box and not less than 15" measured from the bottom of the outlet box above the finish floor. CRC R327.1.2.
  - c. Doorbell buttons shall not be installed more than 48" above exterior floor or landing. CRC R327.1.4.
18. All fenestrations on windows and doors shall have U-factors (0.30 max) and Solar Heat Gain Coefficient (SHGC=0.23 max) values in accordance with T-24 energy calculations. All fenestrations must have temporary and permanent labels.

### **TEMPORARY GENERATOR:**

19. Hand operated construction tools powered by electricity must use power provided by Southern California Edison through a temporary pole or available outlet. In the rare case where electricity is not readily available and a portable temporary generator is necessary, then the following restrictions must be adhered to:
- a. Must be portable and may be easily relocated.
  - b. Temporary generators are to be located a minimum distance from any property line according to the following table:

Time in Use Hours	Required Setback from Property Line	Required Setback from Adjacent Structures
0 – 1 day	10 feet	5 feet
> 1 day	20 feet	5 feet

- c. If the minimum distance cannot be achieved, then the generator shall be located the most extreme distance practical to inhibit noise. Other methods to inhibit noise may be utilized when practical.
- d. May be operational for a maximum of five consecutive calendar days. After five consecutive calendar days of use, power shall be provided using a temporary power pole.
- e. Usage is limited to weekdays between the hours from 8:00 AM and 3:30 PM Monday through Friday. No use on the weekends or federal holidays.

## **FIREPLACE:**

### 20. All fireplaces:

- a. Factory-built fireplaces, chimneys and all their components shall be listed and installed in accordance with their listing and manufacturer's installation instructions. (CRC R1004.1)
- b. Factory built wood burning fireplaces shall be qualified at the U.S. EPA's Voluntary Fireplace Program Phase 2 emissions level. (CRC 1004.1.1)
- c. Decorative shrouds shall not be installed at the termination of factory-built chimneys except where such shrouds are listed and labeled for use with the specific factory-built chimney system and are installed in accordance with manufacturer's installation instructions. (CRC R1005.2 & CMC 802.5.1.1 & CMC 802.5.4.3)
- d. Horizontal openings are not allowed, for exhaust vents, in walls closer than 3 feet to a property line. (Tables R302.1(1) & (2)). Horizontal vent caps shall be 2 feet clear from property lines.
- e. Exhaust openings shall not be directed onto walkways. (R303.5.2)

### 21. Solid fuel burning fireplaces:

- a. Provide a permanently anchored gaseous fuel burning pan to the firebox of a solid fuel burning fireplace.
- b. Solid fuel burning fireplace must comply with the California Energy Standards mandatory measures.
- c. Chimney shall extend at least 2 ft. higher than any portion of the building within 10 ft. but shall not be less than 3 ft. above the highest point where the chimney passes through the roof. (CRC R1003.9)
- d. Liquid fueled fireplaces are not allowed for interior use.

### 22. Direct vent gas appliance fireplace:

- a. Direct vent sealed-combustion gas appliance fireplace must comply with the Cal Green code requirements and must comply with US EPA New Source Performance Standards (NSPS). (Cal Green 4.503.1)

## **MECHANICAL:**

- 23. Rooms containing bathtubs, showers, spas and similar fixtures shall be provided with an exhaust fan with humidity control sensor having a minimum capacity of 50 CFM ducted to terminate outside the building. (CRC R303.3, Cal Green 4.506.1, CBC 1202.5.2.1, CMC 402.5)
- 24. Where water closet compartment is independent of the bathroom or shower area, a fan will be required in each area. Bathrooms shall have an exhaust fan with humidity control sensor, min. 50 CFM capacity. (CRC R303.3)

25. Where whole house fans are used in bathroom areas, the fan must run continuously and shall not be tied to a humidity control sensor. (Cal Green 4.506.1(2)).
26. The clothes dryer vent shall not exceed 14 ft. in overall length with maximum two 90-degree elbows. (CMC 504.4.2.1)
27. Environmental air ducts shall terminate min. 3 feet from property line or openings into building, and 10 feet from a forced air inlet. (CMC 502.2.1)
28. Mechanical equipment shall be installed per the manufacture's installation instructions. (CMC 303.1)
29. Domestic range vents to be smooth metallic interior surface. (CMC 504.3)
30. Supply and return air ducts to be insulated at a minimum of R-6. (Cal Energy Code Table 150.1-A.)

### **PLUMBING:**

31. Separate water meters are required for all new duplexes. Separate fire risers are required at each water meter.
32. Plumbing Fixtures:
  - a. New Construction & Addition/Alterations that increases condition space area, volume, or size (Cal Green 4.303.1):
    - i. Comply with CAL Green Mandatory Requirements
  - b. Addition & Alteration: Existing fixtures shall be replaced to meet the following requirements:
    - i. Shower Heads: 1.8 gpm @ 80 psi
    - ii. Lavatory Faucets: 1.2 gpm @ 60 psi
    - iii. Kitchen Faucets: 1.8 gpm @ 60 psi
    - iv. Water Closet: 1.28 gallons per flush
33. Clearance for water closet to be a minimum of 24 inches in front, and 15 inches from its center to any side wall or obstruction. (CPC 402.5)
34. The water heater burner to be at least 18 inches above the garage floor, if located in a garage. (CPC 507.13)
35. Install a 3-inch diameter by 3 ft. tall steel pipe embedded in concrete slab for protection of water heaters located in garage. (CPC 507.13.1)
36. Water heaters to be strapped at top and bottom with 1 ½" x 16-gauge strap with 3/8" diameter. X 3" lag bolt each end. (CPC 507.2)
37. ABS and PVC drain waste and vent piping material is limited to 2 stories maximum. (CPC 701.2(2) (a). and 903.1.1)
38. ABS and PVC roof and deck drain material is limited to 2 stories maximum. (CPC 1101.4)
39. Roof and deck drain systems inside the building are required to be installed with directional DWV drainage fittings. (CPC 1101.4 and & 706.0)
40. Cleanouts are required within 2 feet of the connection between the building interior roof/deck drain piping system and the exterior onsite storm drain system. (CPC 1101.13)
41. All hose bibbs shall have vacuum breakers. (CPC 603.5.7)
42. The maximum amount of water closets on a 3-inch horizontal drainage system line is 3. (CPC Table 703.2)

43. The maximum amount of water closets on a 3-inch vertical drainage system line is 4. (CPC Table 703.2)
44. Provide a condensate drain no more than 2 inches above the base of the water heater space. (Cal Energy Code 150.0 (n))
45. Insulate all hot water pipes. (Cal Energy Code 150.0 (j) (1), and CPC 609.12).
46. Isolation valves are required for tankless water heaters on the hot and cold supply lines with hose bibbs on each valve, to flush the heat exchanger. (Cal Energy Code 110.3 (6))
47. Install 1 automatic clothes washer connection per one- and two-family dwelling. (CPC Table 422.1)

#### **ELECTRICAL:**

48. Electrical service shall be underground for new construction, replacement building, or addition to an existing building exceeds fifty (50) percent of the gross floor area of the existing building. (NBMC 15.32.015)
49. Edison Company approval is required for meter location prior to installation.
50. Field inspectors shall review and approve underground service requirement prior to concrete placement.
51. Service equipment and subpanels shall have a min 30" wide by 36" deep clear work space. (CEC 110.26)
52. All lighting is required shall be high efficacy. (California energy code section 150.0 (k) and Table 150.0-A.)
53. Provide a listed 1-inch raceway to accommodate a dedicated 208/240-volt circuit for future electrical vehicle (EV) charger. (Cal Green 4.106.4.1)
54. All receptacle outlets are required shall be listed tamper resistant (CEC 406.12 and 250.52)
55. Combination type AFCI circuit breakers are required for all 120-volt single phase 15/20 amp branch circuits. Except for bathrooms, garages, and outdoors. (CEC 210.12)
56. A minimum of one dedicated 20 amp circuit is required for a bathroom. (CEC 210.11(C)(3))
57. GFCI protection is required for all receptacle outlets located outdoors, garages, accessory buildings, bathrooms, crawl spaces, kitchens, laundry areas, kitchen dishwasher branch circuit, garbage disposal, all areas within 6 feet of a sink, and all receptacles within 6 feet of a bathtub or shower stall. (CEC 210.8)
58. Ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) is required for all receptacle(s) installed in all areas on basement level. (CEC 210.8(A)(5))
59. Receptacle outlets are not allowed within or over a bathtub or shower stall. (CEC 406.9 (C))
60. Subpanels are not allowed to be located in bathrooms or clothes closets. Avoid installing sub-panels in fire wall envelope unless the panel is listed, or fire protection is clearly detailed to the satisfaction of the building official. (CEC 240.24 (D) and (E))
61. Circuits sharing a grounded conductor (neutral) with two ungrounded (hot) conductors must use a two-pole circuit breaker or an identified handle tie. Group non-cable circuits in panel. (CEC 210.4(B)) (CEC 210.4(D))
62. The receptacle outlets that serve kitchen counter tops, dining room, breakfast area, and pantry, must have a min of 2 dedicated 20 amp circuits. (CEC 210.52 (B)(1))

63. Kitchen counter tops 12 inches or wider must have a receptacle outlet. (CEC 210.52(C)(1))
64. Kitchen counter tops must have receptacle outlets so no point along the counter walls is more than 24 inches from a receptacle. (CEC 210.52 (C)(1))
65. Island and peninsular counter tops must have at least one receptacle. (CEC 210.52(C)(1), (2), and (3))
66. The spacing for general receptacle outlets must be located so that no point on any wall, fixed glass, or cabinets is over 6 feet from a receptacle outlet. (CEC 210.52(A)(1))
67. Hallways 10 feet or more must have at least one receptacle outlet. (CEC 210.52(H))
68. Garages shall have at least one receptacle for each car space on the interior. The branch circuit supplying the receptacles shall not serve outlets outside of the garage. (CEC 210.52 (G) (1)).
69. Laundry rooms must have at least one dedicated 20 amp receptacle circuit. (CEC 210.11(C) (2)).
70. Provide 120V receptacle within 3 feet of water heater. (Cal Energy Code 150.0 (n) 1 A.)

**FOUNDATION:**

71. Weep screed for stucco at the foundation plate line shall be a minimum of 4 inches above the earth or 2 inches above paved areas. (CRC R703.7.2.1, CBC 2512.1.2)
72. Fasteners and connectors (nails, anchor bolts, etc.) in contact with preservative-treated wood shall be of hot-dipped zinc-coated galvanized steel, stainless steel, silicon bronze or copper. (CRC R317.3, CBC 2304.10.6)
73. Anchor bolts shall include steel plate washers, a minimum of 0.229" x 3" x 3" in size, between sill plate and nut. (CRC R602.11.1, CBC 2308.3, Acceptable alternate SDPWS 4.3.6.4.3)