

Below is a checklist for the general signage in new buildings as required by the 2015 editions of the International Building Code (IBC) and International Fire Code (IFC). The checklist includes the type of sign required, a description of what the sign should say, details about locations of the sign, and the code sections that pertain to each sign. This is just a guide, not all signage will be applicable on all projects. Additional signage may be required that is not list below. If you need assistance determining if the signage is required, please contact your fire inspector.

| ACCESSIBILITY | Directional signage indicating route to nearest accessible | IBC |
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| DIRECTIONS | element. These directional signs are also to include the | 1110.2 |
| | International Symbol of Accessibility. To be provided at the | |
| | following locations: •Inaccessible building entrances | |
| | •Inaccessible public toilets and bathing facilities •Elevators not | |
| | serving an accessible route •Exits serving required accessible | |
| | spaces that do not have approved accessible means of egress | |
| AREAS OF | "AREA OF REFUGE" Each door providing access to an area | IBC |
| REFUGE | of refuge from the adjacent floor is to be identified by a sign. | 1007.9 |
| | Where exit sign illumination is required the sign is to be | |
| | illuminated. | |
| DELAYED | "PUSH UNTIL ALARM SOUNDS, DOOR CAN BE | IBC |
| EMERGENCY EXIT | OPENED IN SECONDS" Approved delayed egress locks | 1008.1.9 |
| DOORS | are permitted to be installed in buildings equipped with | 1000.1.5 |
| DOORS | approved fire protection systems. | |
| ELECTRICAL | Doors into electrical control panel rooms shall be marked with | IFC |
| CONTROL | a plainly visible and legible sign stating ELECTRICAL | 605.3.1 |
| CONTROL | ROOM or similar approved wording. The disconnecting | 003.3.1 |
| | means for each service, feeder or branch circuit originating on | |
| | a switchboard or panelboard shall be legibly and durably | |
| | marked to indicate its purpose. | |
| ELEVATOR | "IN FIRE EMERGENCY, DO NOT USE ELEVATOR. USE | IBC |
| EMERGENCY | STAIRS" Standardized design of approved picture and text is | 3002.3 |
| SIGNS | to be posted next to every elevator call station. | 3002.3 |
| EXITS | | IBC |
| EAIIS | Exits are to be marked by an approved exit sign visible from any direction of egress travel. Intervening means of egress | 1011.1 |
| | • | 1011.1 |
| | doors within exits shall be marked by exit signs. Exit sign | |
| | placement shall be such that no point in an exit access corridor | |
| | or exit passageway is more than 100 feet from the nearest | |
| EIDE | visible exit sign. | IEC |
| FIRE DEDARCEMENT | "AUTOMATIC SPRINKLERS" or "STANDPIPES" or | IFC |
| DEPARTMENT | "TEST CONNECTION A metal sign with raised letters is to | 912.4 |
| CONNECTIONS | be mounted on all building fire department connections | IEC |
| FIRE DOORS | "FIRE DOOR-DO NOT BLOCK" or "FIRE DOOR-KEEP | IFC |
| | CLOSED" Sign is to be permanently displayed on or near | 703.2.1 |
| EIDE HOGE | each fire door in letters not less than 1 inch high. | IDC |
| FIRE HOSE | Fire cabinet equipment identified by approved signage. Sign is | IBC |
| CABINETS | to be permanently attached with letters not less than 2 inches | 905.7.1 |
| | high in a color that contrasts with the background color. | |
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| | TIPE PROFESSION | | TEC |
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| | FIRE PROTECTION | Fire protection equipment shall be identified in an approved | IFC |
| | EQUIPMENT | manner. Rooms containing controls for air-conditioning | 509.1 |
| | SIGNS | systems, sprinkler risers and valves, or other fire detection, | |
| | | suppression or control elements shall be identified for the use | |
| | | of the fire department. Approved signs required to identify | |
| | | fire protection equipment and equipment location shall be | |
| | | constructed of durable materials, permanently installed and | |
| | | readily visible. | |
| | FLOOR | Floor level, story of exit discharge, roof access from exit | IBC |
| | IDENTIFICATION | enclosure. Signs are to be provided on each floor landing | 1022.8 |
| | | where exit enclosures connect more than 3 floors. The sign is | |
| | | to be located 5 feet above the floor landing. | |
| | HAZARD | Hazard identification, numbered and color-coded "fire | IFC |
| | IDENTIFICATION | diamond" Identifies the risk of hazardous materials, as | 2397.5 |
| | | specified in NFPA 704. | 2077.0 |
| | KEY LOCKS ON | "THIS DOOR TO REMAIN UNLOCKED WHEN | IBC |
| | EGRESS SIDE OF | BUILDING IS OCCUPIED" Sign is to be posted on the egress | 1008.1.9 |
| | DOORS | side on or adjacent to the door and have letters at least 1 inch. | |
| | NO SMOKING | "NO SMOKING" Signs are to be posted in conspicuous | IFC |
| | | locations in each location in which smoking is prohibited. | 310.3 |
| | OCCUPANT LOAD | Every room or space that is an assembly occupancy shall have | IBC |
| | | the occupant load of the room or space posted in a conspicuous | 1004.3 |
| | | place, near the main exit or exit access doorway from the room | |
| | | or space. Posted signs shall be of an approved design. | |
| | PREMISES | Buildings shall have address numbers, building numbers or | IFC |
| | IDENTIFICATION | approved building identification placed in a position that is | 505.1 |
| | | plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the | |
| | | property and from all rear alleyways / access. Where required | |
| | | by the fire code official, address numbers shall be provided in | |
| | | additional approved locations to facilitate emergency response. | |
| | | These numbers shall contrast with their background; color | |
| | | selection shall accommodate all lighting conditions. Address | |
| | | numbers shall be Arabic numbers or alphabetical letters. | |
| | | Street address numbers shall be a minimum of 12 inches high | |
| | | with a minimum stroke width of 0.5 inch. Unit/suite/rear/alley | |
| | | numbers shall be a minimum of 4 inches high. Where access is | |
| | | by means of a private road and the building cannot be viewed | |
| | | from the public way, a monument, pole or other sign or means | |
| | | shall be used to identify the structure. | |
| | RATED BARRIERS | "FIRE AND/OR SMOKE BARRIER PROTECT ALL | IBC |
| | | OPENINGS" Any wall required to have protected openings or | 703.6 |
| | | penetrations is to be permanently identified with signs. | |
| | TWO-WAY COMM. | Directions for summoning assistance and written identification | IBC |
| | SYSTEM | of the location to be posted next to any two-way | 1007.8.2 |
| | | communication systems. | |
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