

Clothes Dryer Vents

2025 California Mechanical Code, Section 504.4 Clothes Dryers

504.4.2 Domestic Clothes Dryers When a compartment or space for a domestic clothes dryer is provided, a minimum 4-inch diameter (102mm) moisture exhaust duct of approved material shall be installed in accordance with this Section and Section 504.0. Domestic clothes dryer moisture exhaust ducts shall be of metal and shall have smooth interior surfaces.

5.04.4.2.2 Transition Ducts Approved flexible duct connectors not more than 6 feet in length may be used in connection with domestic dryer exhausts. Flexible duct connectors shall not be concealed within construction.

504.4 Clothes Dryers Moisture exhaust ducts for domestic clothes dryers shall terminate on the outside of the building and shall be equipped with a back-draft damper. Screens shall not be installed at the duct termination. Ducts for exhausting clothes dryers shall not be connected or installed with sheet metal screws or other fasteners which will obstruct the flow. Clothes dryer moisture exhaust ducts shall not be connected to a gas vent connector, gas vent or chimney. Clothes dryer moisture exhaust ducts shall not extend into or through ducts or plenums.

504.4.2.1 Length Limitation* Unless otherwise permitted or required by the dryer manufacturer's installations instructions, and approved by the Permit Center, domestic dryer moisture exhaust ducts shall not exceed a total combined horizontal and vertical length of 14 feet (4267 mm), including two 90-degree elbows. Two feet (610 mm) shall be deducted for each 90-degree elbow in excess of two.

Exception: Where an exhaust duct power ventilator, in accordance to Section 504.4.2.3, is used, the maximum length of the dryer exhaust duct shall be permitted to be in accordance with the dryer exhaust duct power ventilator manufacturer's installation instructions

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