

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Bureau of Standards
Division of Building and Housing
(January 20, 1933)

Letter
Circular
LC-355

Key to Minimum Requirements Recommended by the Department
of Commerce Building Code Committee

The Committee has not yet covered all phases of building regulation. It has, however, issued seven reports. Of these, that entitled Recommended Practice for Arrangement of Building Codes contains an approved arrangement for a code. Using this as an index, this list has been drawn up showing what recommended requirements are to be found in the Committee's other reports. In some of these it will be noted that the decimal points used in numbering have been replaced by dashes. Wherever the section referred to contains a further reference to a paragraph in the Appendix of the report, this should be studied carefully. The Appendix to each report also contains much additional information of value to those preparing local codes.

Following is a list of the reports issued to date, together with the identifying letters used in the list. They may be obtained, together with their supplements, from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., at the prices indicated (currency or money order):

- BH6 -- Recommended Minimum Requirements for Masonry Wall Construction, B.S. Building and Housing No. 6, 1925, with supplement, 1931, (BH6, 15¢)
- BH7 -- Minimum Live Loads Allowable for Use in Design of Buildings, B.S. Building and Housing No. 7, 1925. (BH7, 10¢)
- BH8 -- Recommended Practice for Arrangement of Building Codes, B.S. Building and Housing No. 8, 1925. (BH8, 10¢)
- BH9 -- Recommended Building Code Requirements for Working Stresses

in Building Materials, B.S. Building and Housing No. 9, 1926. Mimeographed Letter Circular 349 modifying this is obtainable from the Division of Building and Housing, Bureau of Standards, Washington, D.C.

- BH13 -- Recommended Minimum Requirements for Plumbing, B.S. Building and Housing No. 13, 1932. (BH13, 35¢)
- BH14 -- Recommended Minimum Requirements for Fire Resistance in Buildings, B.S. Building and Housing No. 14, 1931 (BH14, 10¢)
- BH18 -- Recommended Minimum Requirements for Small Dwelling Construction, B.S. Building and Housing No. 18, 1932 (BH18, 10¢)

KEY TO MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Subject	Section No. Code	Arrange-ment	Re- port	Page	Section Number	Remarks
ADMINISTRATION	1					Chapter in process
General Provisions	1.1					
Enforcement	1.2					
DEFINITIONS	2					Definitions will now be found in various reports. To be consolidated later. Where two definitions of the same thing are found in different reports, use that found in the later edition.
Definitions	2.1					
CLASSIFICATIONS	3					
Classifications of buildings by occupancy	3.1		BH14	3	3-1	
Classifications by type of construction	3.2		BH14	4	3-2	

Subject	Section No. Code	Arrange- ment Re- port	Re- port	Page	Section Number	Remarks
GENERAL BUILDING RESTRICTIONS	4					
Restrictions as to location	4.1		BH14	5	4-1	
Restrictions as to height	4.2		BH14	6	4-2	
Restrictions as to areas	4.3		BH14	8	4-3	
Restrictions as to location on pro- perty	4.4					
Construction types for special occup- ancies	4.5		BH14	11	4-5	
ZONING	5					Zoning is fre- quently covered in a separate or- dinance. For in- formation consult Preparation of Zoning Ordinances, by the Advisory Committee on City Planning and Zon- ing
LIGHT & VENTILATION	6					Essentials are under investiga- tion
MEANS OF EGRESS	7					Recommendations on this subject are substantially completed but not yet published.
MATERIALS, LOADS AND STRESSES	8					Recommendations are at present contained in sev- eral reports.
Quality of Materi- als	8.1					These are being
Grades	8.11		BH6	5, 9, 12,	2, 9, 17,	consolidated and
				15	28, 32	brought up-to-date
			BH9	6, 7	2, 8, 3.4	In the meantime,
					4.2	existing recommen-
			BH18	8, 9, 11	3-1, 4-1	dations with sup-
					5-1	plements issued
						from time to time
						should be used.

Subject	Section No. Code	Arrange-ment Re-:port	Re-:port	Page	Section: Number	Remarks
Materials, Loads and Stresses (Cont'd.)						Consult changes in mimeographed Letter Circular LC-349
Tests	8.12		BH6	10,19	9,45	
Loads	8.2		BH7	5	2	
			BH18	6,13,17	1-4,5-8: 8-1	
Dead	8.21					See Appendix BH18, Page 27
Live	8.22		BH7	5,6,7,8	3,4,5,6: 7,9,10	See BH18, Page 6, 1-5 for change in BH7, Page 5, Sec. 3 as to dwelling floors
			BH18	6,7	1-5,1-6:	
Wind Pressures	8.23		BH7	7	8	
			BH18	7,14	1-6,7-2:	
ALLOWABLE WORKING STRESSES	8.3		BH9	5,6,7,8	1,2,3, 4,5	See mimeographed Letter Circular LC-349 for changes in some sections. See printed supplement to BH6 dated 1931 for changes
			BH6	6,10,13, 14,15, 16	4,11,19: 24,29, 33	
Bearing Values of Soils	8.4					See BH18, Page 30, Par. 7 for estimates
CONSTRUCTION	9		BH18			Complete re-
Workmanship	9.1			14	7-1	quirements are in process
			BH9	5	1	
Excavations	9.2					
Foundations	9.3		BH6	18	43	
			BH18	7	2-2	
Footings	9.31		BH18	7	2-1	
Pile Foundations	9.32					
Retaining Walls	9.33					
Vaults & Areaways	9.34					
Masonry	9.4					
Solid Brick Walls	9.41		BH6	6,7,8,9	3,5,6,7: 8	
			BH18	8,9	3-2,3-3: 3-4,3-5: 3-6	

Subject	Section No. Code	Arrange-ment Re-:port	Re-:port	Page	Section: Number	Remarks
Construction Workmanship(Cont'd.)						
Hollow Walls	9.42		BH6	10,11	10,12, 13,14, 15,16	
			BH18	10,11	4-2,4-3: 4-4,4-5: 4-6,4-7:	
Walls of plain	9.43		BH6	12,13, 14	18,20,21 22,23	
			BH18	12	5-2,5-3: 5-4,5-5:	
Stone Walls	9.44		BH6	14,15	25,26,27	
Veneered Walls	9.45		BH6	15	30, 31	
			BH18	10,13 14	4-2,6-2: 6-3	
Faced Walls	9.46		BH6	16	34,35	
			BH18	10	4-2	
Party, fire and fire division walls	9.47		BH6	7,9,16 17,18	5,8,36 37,38,39 40,41, 42	Term for division wall subsequently changed to fire partition
			BH14	12	11-2	For fire resistance require-
			BH18	17,18	9-1,9-3: 9-4	ments concerning these see BH14
Miscellaneous masonry wall requirements	9.48		BH6	19,20	44,46, 47,48, 49	
Reinforced Concrete	9.5		BH9	5	2	For changes see mimeographed Letter Circular LC-349.
			BH18	13	5-7	
Iron and Steel	9.6		BH18	17	8-1	
			BH9	7	3,4	ditto
Wood Ordinary	9.7 9.71		BH9	8	5	
			BH18	14,15, 16,17	7-2,7-3: 7-4,7-5:	
Mill or Slow Burning	9.72		BH9	8	5	Terms Mill or Slow Burning and
Semi-mill	9.73		BH9	8	5	Semi-mill subse-
Frame	9.74		BH18	13,14, 15,16, 17	6-1,7-1: 7-2,7-3: 7-4,7-5:	quently changed to Heavy Timber. For fire resistance require-

Subject	Section No. Code	Arrangement Report	Re-:port	Page	Section: Number	Remarks
Construction						ments see BH14
Wood						
Frame (Cont'd.)						
Plastering	9.8					See BH18, Ap- pendix, Page 70, Pars. 40, 41, 42, 43, 44
PRECAUTIONS DURING BUILDING OPERATIONS	10					In process
Storage of materials	10.1					
Protection of public	10.2					
Protection of work- men	10.3					
Protection of ad- jacent property	10.4					
Utility and sanita- tion requirements	10.5					
FIRE PROTECTION	11					For ultimate fire resistance of various build- ing construction see Appendix BH14, Page 29, Par. 6
Fire Resistive Ma- terials	11.1	BH14		11	11-1	
Protection of Structural Members	11.2	BH14		12	11-2-1, 11-2-2, 11-2-3, 11-2-4, 11-2-5, 11-2-6	
Floors	11.3	BH14		14	11-3	
Partitions	11.4	BH14		14	11-4	
Protection of Verti- cal Openings	11.5	BH14		14	11-5	
Protection of Wall and Partition Open- ings	11.6	BH14		15	11-6	
Ceilings	11.7			16	11-7	
Roof Structures & Roofing	11.8	BH14		17	11-8	
Fire Stopping	11.9	BH14		18	11-9	
		BH18		23	10-4	
CHIMNEYS AND HEATING APPLIANCES	12	BH18		19, 20, 21, 22	10-1, 10-2, 10-3	

Subject	Section No. Code	Arrange-ment	Re-:port	Page	Section: Number:	Remarks
SPECIAL OCCUPANCY PROVISIONS						
Theaters, assembly halls & similar buildings	13					
Factories, mercantile & similar buildings	13.1					
Places of instructions	13.2					
Hotels, apartments & similar occupancies	13.3					
	13.4					
ELEVATORS						
	14					
PLUMBING						
Definition of terms	15.1	BH13	18	1 to 18		
General Regulations	15.2	BH13	20	19 to 25		
Quality & Weight of Materials	15.3		21	26 to 30		
Joints & Connections	15.4		24	41 to 55		
Traps & Cleanouts	15.5		26	56 to 69		
Water Supply & Distribution	15.6		28	70 to 79		
Plumbing Fixtures	15.7		30	80 to 87		
Ventilation of rooms & Fixtures	15.8		31	88 to 89		
Soil, waste & vent Pipes	15.9		32 to 35	90, 92 to 107		
			281	91		
House drains and Sewers	15.10		36 to 39	108 to 114, 117 to 122;		See Supplement bound in back of printed report
			282, 283	115, 116		
Storm Waste Drains	15.11		40, 41	123 to 131		
Refrigeration, Safe and Special wastes Maintenance	15.12		42	132 to 134		
	15.13		43	135 to 136		
Inspection & Tests	15.14		44, 45, 46	137 to 153		
HEATING						
	16					:To be combined with Chapter 12

Subject	Section No. Code Arrange- ment Re- port	Re- port	Page	Section Number	Remarks
ELECTRICAL	17				
SIGNS AND BILLBOARDS	18				In Process
FIRE EXTINGUISHING EQUIPMENT	19				

