

Planning, Building and Code Enforcement

## **Dryer Vent Requirements**



REFERENCE
California Mechanical Code
(CMC) Section 504.3.2.2
Dryer vents must conform
to this code.

The vent (exhaust duct) of domestic clothes dryers must meet the following requirements:

## **MAXIMUM LENGTH AND ELBOWS**

Maximum length (combined horizontal and vertical and including any elbows): 14 feet

Maximum 90 degree elbows: 2 If more than two 90-degree elbows, deduct 2 feet from allowed vent length for each additional elbow

NOTE: The use of booster fans to increase the allowable vent length is not permitted.

## **PROVISIONS FOR NON-COMPLIANT CONDITIONS**

When conditions prohibit compliance with the above requirements above or as outlined in CMC section 504.3.2.2, follow both the manufacturer installation instructions and these three requirements:

- 1. Provide to the Building Division: Dryer make/model and manufacturer installation instructions
- 2. Maximum equivalent length: 35 feet

Regardless of manufacturer specifications, the maximum allowable equivalent length of the vent is 35 feet. Equivalent length is the total combined vertical and horizontal length minus the equivalent length of installed fittings installed. Use the table belwo to determine the equivalent length of fittings:

Dryer Exhaust Duct	Fitting Type
Equivalent Length	in inches
4" radius mitered 45 degree elbow	30"
4" radius mitered 90 degree elbow	60"
6" radius smooth 45 degree elbow	12"
6" radius smooth 90 degree elbow	21"
8" radius smooth 45 degree elbow	12"
8" radius smooth 90 degree elbow	19"
10" radius smooth 45 degree elbow	9"
10" radius smooth 90 degree elbow	18"

Note: When measuring length, measure from the transition duct (connected to the dryer) to the outlet terminal.

**3. Post a placard:** Permanently affix a durable placard, minimum size of 4x5 inches, on a wall near and visible from the dryer location. The placard shall state the actual length of the installed dryer exhaust vent and include the language as shown:

## WARNING

CHECK THE MANUFACTURER INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR ANY DOMESTIC DRYER THAT WILL BE INSTALLED AT THIS LOCATION. THE INSTRUCTIONS SHOULD ALLOW THE DRYER TO BE CONNECTED TO AN EXHAUST DUCT (VENT) THAT IS A MAXIMUM \_\_\_FEET LONG.

DO NOT REMOVE THIS PLACARD.

San José Permit Center San José City Hall 200 E. Santa Clara St. San José, CA 95113 408-535-3555