CITY of MODESTO

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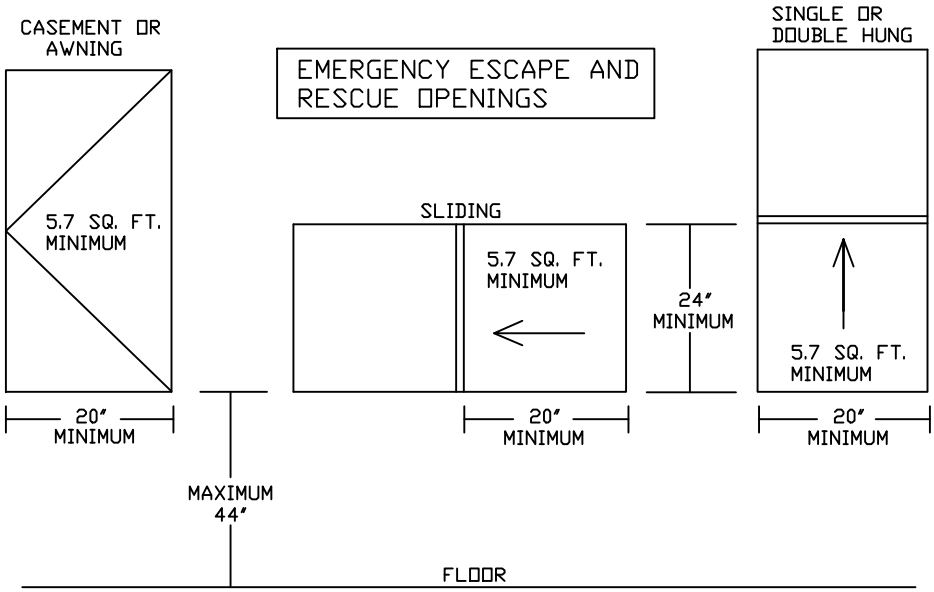
EMERGENCY ESCAPE AND RESCUE WINDOW REQUIREMENTS

SECTION 1026 OF THE CALIFORNIA BUILDING CODE STATES THE REQUIREMENTS FOR EMERGENCY ESCAPE AND RESCUE WINDOWS FOR GROUP R AND I-1 OCCUPANCIES.

Emergency escape and rescue openings: Basements and sleeping rooms below the 4th story above grade plane shall have at least one (1) emergency escape and rescue opening. Such openings shall open directly into a public way or to a yard. The emergency window or door must be operable from the inside without the use of tools. If security bars are to be installed, they must be (a) equipped with approved release mechanisms, openable from the inside without the use of a key or special knowledge or effort; and (b) the building must be equipped with smoke alarms.

Emergency escape and rescue openings must have a minimum NET CLEAR opening of 5.7 square feet. The minimum NET CLEAR openable width is 20" and the minimum NET CLEAR openable height is 24". The NET CLEAR opening dimensions shall be the result of normal operation of the window. Emergency escape and rescue openings shall have the bottom of the CLEAR opening not greater than 44" measured from the floor.



NOTE: THE MINIMUM NET CLEAR OPENING FOR EMERGENCY ESCAPE AND RESCUE GRADE-FLOOR OPENINGS SHALL BE 5 SQUARE FEET PER CBC SECTION 1026.2 (EXCEPTION).

EXAMPLES OF MINIMUM WIDTH/HEIGHT REQUIREMENTS FOR EMERGENCY ESCAPE AND RESCUE OPENINGS TO ACHIEVE A 5.7 SQUARE FOOT OPENING (DIMENSIONS ARE IN INCHES)

WIDTH	20	20.5	21	21.5	22	22.5	23	23.5	24	24.5	25	25.5	26	26.5	27
HEIGHT	41	40	39.1	38.2	37.3	36.5	35.7	34.9	34.2	33.5	32.8	32.2	31.6	31	30.4

WIDTH	27.5	28	28.5	29	29.5	30	30.5	31	31.5	32	32.5	33	33.5	34	34.2
HEIGHT	29.8	29.3	28.8	28.3	27.8	27.4	26.9	26.5	26.1	25.7	25.3	24.9	24.5	24.1	24

GRADE-FLOOR ONLY

EXAMPLES OF MINIMUM WIDTH/HEIGHT REQUIREMENTS FOR EMERGENCY ESCAPE AND RESCUE OPENINGS TO ACHIEVE A 5.0 SQUARE FOOT OPENING (DIMENSIONS ARE IN INCHES)

WIDTH	20	20.5	21	21.5	22	22.5	23	23.5	24	24.5	25	25.5	26	26.5	27
HEIGHT	36	35.1	34.3	33.5	32.8	32	31.3	30.7	30	29.4	28.8	28.3	27.7	27.2	26.7

WIDTH	27.5	28	28.5	29	29.5	30	30.5	31	31.5	32	32.5	33	33.5	34	34.2
HEIGHT	26.2	25.7	25.3	24.8	24.4	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24