

12/01/2008
NEWS FROM BUILDING INSPECTIONS
City of Winston-Salem

The following information is provided from Building Department of the Inspections Division: City of Winston-Salem.

Information and questions from builders:

1. How many exit doors are required in a Residential home?

MEANS OF EGRESS (SECTION -R311)

Residential

R311.4 Doors

Not less than one exit door conforming to this section shall be provided for each dwelling unit. The required exit door shall provide for direct access from the habitable portions of the dwelling to the exterior without requiring travel through a garage.

R311.4.2 Door type and size

The required exit door shall be a side-hinge door not less than 3 feet in width and 6 feet 8 inches in height. Other doors shall not be required to comply with these minimum dimensions.

R311.3.2 Interior doors

All doors providing egress from habitable rooms shall have nominal minimum dimensions of 2 feet 6 inches width by 6 feet 8 inches height.

Habitable Spaces

A space in a building for living, sleeping, eating or cooking. Bathrooms, toilet rooms, closets, halls, storage or utility spaces and similar areas are not considered habitable spaces.

2.) Am I required to have an exit door on each level of a two-story house?

No, as long as the levels (including basement levels) are connected by code compliant stairways, only one primary exit is required.

I would like to hear from you on any comments you have or concerns. Items you wish to discuss, please email me and we will respond to your questions and also we will include it each month.

Please send any comments to olinwm@cityofws.org. We would like to hear from you.

Thanks,
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