

Subpart C—Fire Safety

SOURCE: 49 FR 32008, Aug. 9, 1984, unless otherwise noted.

§ 3280.201 Scope.

The purpose of this subpart is to set forth requirements that will assure reasonable fire safety to the occupants by reducing fire hazards and by providing measures for early detection.

§ 3280.202 Definitions.

The following definitions are applicable to subparts C, H, and I of the Standards:

Combustible material: Any material not meeting the definition of limited-combustible or non-combustible material.

Flame-spread rating: The measurement of the propagation of flame on the surface of materials or their assemblies as determined by recognized standard tests conducted as required by this subpart.

Interior finish: The surface material of walls, fixed or movable partitions, ceilings, columns, and other exposed interior surfaces affixed to the home's structure including any materials such as paint or wallpaper and the substrate to which they are applied. Interior finish does not include:

- (1) Trim and sealant 2 inches or less in width adjacent to the cooking range and in furnace and water heater spaces provided it is installed in accordance with the requirements of § 3280.203(b)(3) or (4), and trim 6 inches or less in width in all other areas;
- (2) Windows and frames;
- (3) Single doors and frames and a series of doors and frames not exceeding 5 feet in width;
- (4) Skylights and frames;
- (5) Casings around doors, windows, and skylights not exceeding 4 inches in width;
- (6) Furnishings which are not permanently affixed to the home's structure;
- (7) Baseboards not exceeding 6 inches in height;
- (8) Light fixtures, cover plates of electrical receptacle outlets, switches, and other devices;
- (9) Decorative items attached to walls and partitions (i.e., pictures, decorative objects, etc.) constituting no

more than 10% of the aggregate wall surface area in any room or space not more than 32 square feet in surface area, whichever is less;

(10) Plastic light diffusers when suspended from a material which meets the interior finish provisions of § 3280.203(b);

(11) Coverings and surfaces of exposed wood beams; and

(12) Decorative items including the following:

(i) Non-structural beams not exceeding 6 inches in depth and 6 inches in width and spaced not closer than 4 feet on center;

(ii) Non-structural lattice work;

(iii) Mating and closure molding; and

(iv) Other items not affixed to the home's structure.

Limited combustible: A material meeting:

(1) The definition of Article 2-3 or NFPA 220-1992; or

(2) $\frac{5}{16}$ -inch or thicker gypsum board.

Noncombustible material: A material meeting the definition of contained in NFPA 220-1992.

Smoke alarm: An alarm device that is responsive to smoke.

Tactile notification appliance: A notification appliance that alerts by the sense of touch or vibration.

[58 FR 55004, Oct. 25, 1993, as amended at 67 FR 12817, Mar. 19, 2002]

§ 3280.203 Flame spread limitations and fire protection requirements.

(a) *Establishment of flame spread rating.* The surface flame spread rating of interior-finish material shall not exceed the value shown in § 3280.203(b) when tested by "Standard Test Method for Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials, ASTM E 84-91a" except that the surface flame spread rating of interior-finish materials required by § 3280.203(b)(5) and (6) may be determined by using the "Standard Test Method for Surface Flammability of Materials Using a Radiant Heat Energy Source, ASTM E 162-90". However, the following materials need not be tested to establish their flame spread rating unless a lower rating is required by these standards.

(1) Flame-spread rating—76 to 200.

(i) .035-inch or thicker high pressure laminated plastic panel countertop;