



INSPECTIONS FREQUENTLY MISSED ITEMS

Houston BuildExpo

2025

ENFORCING THE 2021 SIGNIFICANT CODE CHANGES

*These changes are referencing the
International Energy Conservation Code | IECC*

CONTROLLED OUTLETS IN COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS

Codes Adopted
January 1, 2024

Started enforcing
this change in
January 2024

RESIDENTIAL: OCCUPANCY SENSOR-CONTROLLED SWITCHES OR DIMMER SWITCHES

Codes Adopted
January 1, 2024

Start enforcing projects after
September 1, 2024,
or any projects under the 2015
International Energy Conservation Code

For questions reach out to:
hpcelectricalsection@houstontx.gov
Phone #: 832-394-8860
Request a senior electrical inspector

FREQUENTLY MISSED ITEM STRUCTURAL

Learn how to request to speak with an structural inspector

Fire separation and distance:

- 0 to 3ft
- 3ft to 5ft

STRUCTURAL INSPECTIONS



structural.inspections@houstontx.gov



(832) 394-8840

Request to speak with a Senior Structural Inspector regarding inspection issues.



<https://bit.ly/3LImjvt>

For more information regarding Structural Inspections visit us at the Houston Permitting website by scanning the QR code:



FREQUENTLY MISSED ITEM PLUMBING

Learn how to request to speak with a plumbing inspector

Before calling for a final inspection, ensure that an inspector comes out to test.

Plumbing Inspections



hpcplumbingsection@houstontx.gov



(832) 394-8870

Request to speak with a Senior Plumbing Inspector regarding inspection issues.



<https://bit.ly/3C3qutl>

For more information regarding Structural Inspections visit us at the Houston Permitting website by scanning the QR code:



FREQUENTLY MISSED ITEM ELECTRICAL

Learn how to request to speak with an electrical inspector

Temporary Cut In (TCI) Permit for Power

- Required for power prior to final inspection

ELECTRICAL INSPECTIONS



hpcelectricalsection@houstontx.gov



(832) 394-8860

Request to speak with a Senior Electrical Inspector regarding inspection issues.



<https://bit.ly/47kAOKH>

For more information regarding Structural Inspections visit us at the Houston Permitting website by scanning the QR code:



FREQUENTLY MISSED ITEM MECHANICAL

Learn how to request to speak with an mechanical inspector

Clearances

- 30 inches of clear area in front of the service panels
- Meet manufacture requirements for condensers, furnaces, and commercial equipment

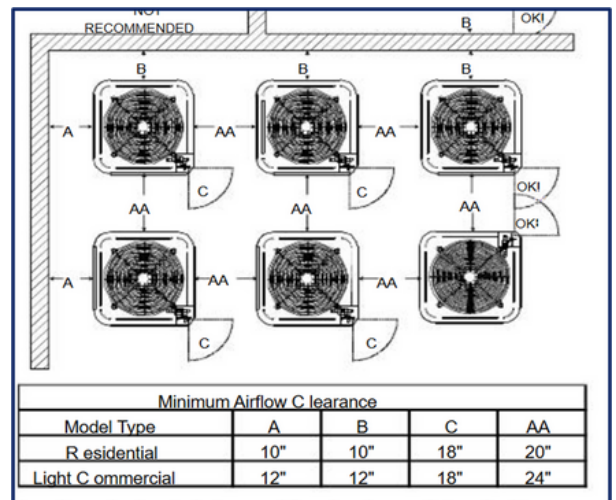
Residential condenser examples:



Commercial condenser example:



Manufacture clearances example:



FREQUENTLY MISSED ITEM MECHANICAL

Learn how to request to speak with an mechanical inspector

MECHANICAL INSPECTIONS



mechanicalsection@houstontx.gov



(832) 394-8850

Request to speak with a Senior Mechanical Inspector regarding inspection issues.



<https://bit.ly/46EFU4M>

For more information regarding mechanical inspections, visit us at the Houston Permitting website by scanning the QR code:



Notes

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR INSPECTIONS

Learn how to access the comprehensive list of Frequently Asked Questions

| HOUSTON PUBLIC WORKS | | BUILDING CODE ENFORCEMENT FREQUENTLY MISSED INSPECTION ITEMS | |
|--|---|---|--|
| Structural | Electrical | Plumbing | Mechanical |
| <p>Foundation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beam Size Rebar Size/Stirrup Spacing Corner Bars Splice Lengths Location on Property Form Survey <p>Windstrap:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proper Amount of Nails Missing Straps Nailing Pattern on Sheathing Nuts on Anchor Bolts <p>Frame Inspection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wall Bracing Joist Hangers Fire-blocking Draftstops Sealing Penetrations <p>Final:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Handrail Termination / Return to Wall Safety Glass Posting Address | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TCI permit for power prior to final required Change in use or occupancy. Wire to commercial standards w/ Approved Plans Provide approved drawings on job site Electrical service not built in accordance with approved drawings Need fault current calculation Ground service, earth ground, water bond, bond neutral Ground wires undersized Provide main Over Current Protection in panel Secure main in panel Overcurrent protection – too large Ditch too shallow – provide correct burial depth Ditch covered without inspection Walls covered without inspection Ceilings covered without inspection Box fill, conductors exceed allowable box fill | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DWV test not complete on wall cover New materials used not listed to standards Wrong materials for the application Foundation poured prior to inspection Wall covered prior to inspection No plans on the job site No testing (rough-in, gas, sewer, etc.) Address is not posted No answer / door locked Plumbing installation not installed per City approved plans Materials are not code compliant Work is covered without inspection Incorrect item count on permit No acid neutralizer installed for discharge condensate from tankless water heaters Hot water heater condensate must terminate in a code approved location | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install fire damper framing as per manufacturer's installation instructions Seal Return Air ducts Provide proper clearance on vent pipe on decorative appliances to combustibles. No approved plans on site. Flexible gas connectors shall not be concealed within or extend through a wall, floor, partition or appliance housing One-hour protection required for duct penetration under stairs. Provide proper service access width and clearance to condensing units. Provide 30" service area and meet manufacturers' clearance for condensing units and furnaces. Extend furnace vent pipe through roof jack. Provide pull down stairway with a 350-pound load capacity and a minimum clearance of 22" across the hardware. |

code.development@houstontx.gov 832.394.9000

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Houston Permitting Center
1002 Washington Ave.
Houston, TX 77002



832.394.9000



www.houstonpermittingcenter.org



askHPC@houstontx.gov

