


Bellevue	Bothell	Burien	Issaquah	Kenmore	Kirkland	Mercer Island
 MyBuildingPermit.com <small>a service of eCityGov.net</small>				<b>CONSTRUCTION BULLETIN</b> <b>Significant Structural Changes to the</b> <b>2009 International Residential Code</b> <b>May 2011</b>		
Mill Creek	Renton	Sammamish	Snohomish County	Snoqualmie	Woodinville	

## 2009 IRC

### Chapter 4

#### ***Seismic Reinforcing For Slabs-On-Ground With Turned Down Footing Modification R403.1.3.2***

For turned-down footings in Seismic Design Categories (SDC) D0, D1 and D2, this change clarifies the exception permitting bars in the middle of the footing depth is an alternative to the top and bottom bar location of horizontal reinforcing in the footing.

#### ***Foundation Anchorage Modification R403.1.6.***

The revision and reorganization of Section R403.1.6 removes redundant language and clarifies the anchorage requirements for wood sill and sole plates resting on concrete and masonry foundations.

#### ***Removed Prescriptive Lateral Restraint Provisions. R404.1 (1) To R404.1 (3).***

The prescriptive lateral restraints provisions for the top of concrete and masonry foundation walls based on soil type, height of wall, and unbalanced backfill height have been removed from the code.

#### ***Masonry and Concrete Foundation Walls. R404.1***

The technical provisions for concrete foundation walls have been substantially revised and are now separated from the masonry foundation provisions.

### Chapter 5

#### ***Added Prescriptive Methods For Deck Attachment, R 502.2.2.1.***

Prescriptive methods for securely attaching a wood deck to the dwelling structure are now included in the IRC.

#### ***Lateral Restraint For Wood Joists, R 502.7.***

New text clarifies that installation of engineered wood products, including lateral support to prevent rotation, is determined by the installation instructions of the manufacturer.

### Chapter 6

#### ***Wood Structural Panel Wall Sheathing To Resist Wind Pressure Modifications Table R602.3(3).***

The component and cladding wind load requirements of Section R301.2.1 and Table R301.2 (2) are now referenced in Section R602.3.

#### ***Drilling And Notching Top Plate Modification R602.6.1.***

When a metal tie is required across the opening of a notched or drilled top plate the tie must now extend at least 6 in. beyond each side of the opening.

#### ***Braced Wall Lines And Panels R602.10 Entirely Rewritten.***

The wood frame wall bracing provisions of Section R602.10 have been entirely rewritten.

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#### GENERAL INFORMATION:

- Obtain a building permit before starting construction.
- These bulletins are not intended to be complete statements of all laws and rules and should not be used as substitutes for them. Additional information can be found at your local building department.

***Lateral Bracing Requirements R602.10.1.2.***

Lateral bracing requirements related to wind loads and seismic loads have been placed in separate tables. The greater tabular value from the 2 tables based on the building location applies.

***Angled Corners Of Braced Wall Line R602.10.13.***

This new section allows angled wall segments to contribute to the length of wall bracing in a braced wall line.

***Braced Wall Panel Location R602.10.1.4.***

The location requirements for braced wall construction are now grouped together in a single section and several figures have been added.

***Braced Wall Line Spacing For Seismic Design R602.10.1.5.***

This change expands the exception to permit wall line spacing of 35ft. for buildings in Seismic Design Categories D0, D1 and D2 subject to adjustment factors.

***Intermittent Brace Wall Panel Construction R602.10.2.***

The bracing methods of the 2006 IRC listed as types 1-8 and the 2 alternate braced wall panel methods have been grouped into one table and given a 2-3 letter abbreviation to make the section more user friendly.

***Alternate Brace Wall Modification R602.10.3.2.***

A new figure replaces much of the text in this section to more clearly illustrate the construction details for alternate braced wall panels, now described as bracing method ABW.

***Portal Frame With Holdown Modification R602.10.3.3.***

The alternate bracing method for a braced wall panel adjacent to a door or window opening, typically used at large overhead garage door openings, is now known as portal frame with holds-down.

***Continuous Sheathing Modification R602.10.4.***

The code now recognizes the practice of mixing intermittent bracing methods with the continuous sheathing method. The continuous sheathing method of bracing has been revised to provide more flexibility in the design and construction of dwellings.

***Braced Wall Panel Connections And Support Modification R602.10.6.***

The code requirements for braced wall panel connection to wood framing have been revised and now recognizes masonry stem wall construction for supporting braced wall panels and prescribes reinforcing when those walls are 48 in. or less in length.

***Braced Wall Panel Joint Modification R602.10.8.***

The exception permitting horizontal joints without blocking in lower Seismic Design Categories has been deleted. The code now permits horizontal joints without blocking for panel sheathing except hardboard panel siding, provided the minimum required amount of bracing is doubled.