

CHAPTER 2

780 CMR 201.0 GENERAL

201.1 Scope: Unless otherwise expressly stated, the following words and terms shall, for the purposes of 780 CMR, have the meanings shown in 780 CMR 2.

201.2 Interchangeability: Words used in the present tense include the future; words used in the masculine gender include the feminine and neuter; the singular number includes the plural and the plural the singular.

201.3 Terms defined in other codes: Where terms are not defined in 780 CMR and are defined in the plumbing (248 CMR), fire prevention (527 CMR) or BOCA mechanical codes *or other reference standards* listed in *Appendix A*, such terms shall have the meanings ascribed to them as in those codes.

201.4 Terms not defined: Where terms are not defined through the methods authorized by 780 CMR 201.0, such terms shall have *the* ordinarily accepted meanings such as the context implies.

201.5 Applications of other laws : Nothing herein contained shall be deemed to nullify any provisions of the zoning by-laws or ordinance of any municipality in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts insofar as those provisions deal exclusively with those powers of regulating zoning granted by the provisions of M.G.L. c. 40A and 41 or St. 1956, c. 665, as amended.

780 CMR 202.0 GENERAL DEFINITIONS

Acceleration: See 780 CMR 1612.3.

Accepted engineering practice: That which conforms to accepted principles, tests or standards of nationally recognized technical or scientific authorities.

Accessible: See 780 CMR 1101.0.

Accessible route: See 780 CMR 1101.0.

Accessory structure: A building, the occupancy of which is incidental to that of the main building, that is located on the same lot as the main building.

Adaptability: See 780 CMR 1101.0.

Addition: An increase in building area, aggregate floor area, height or number of stories of a structure (see 780 CMR 3400.3(4)).

DEFINITIONS

Admixture: See 780 CMR 1902.0.

Aerosol: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Aerosol container: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Aisle accessway: See 780 CMR 1002.0.

Alarm verification: See 780 CMR 902.0.

Alteration: *A change or modification of a building or structure, or the service equipment thereof, that affects safety or health and that is not classified as an ordinary repair.*

Alternating tread stairway: See 780 CMR 1002.0.

Alternate Inspector: *A person appointed to act in the absence of the inspector of buildings or building commissioner in case of illness, disability, or conflicting interest. An alternate inspector shall meet or exceed the minimum qualifications defined by M.G.L. c. 143, § 3 for an inspector of buildings/building commissioner and shall be certified in accordance with 780 CMR R7. See also 780 CMR 105.2*

Anchor: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Anchor Store: See 780 CMR 402.2.

Approval: *When used in 780 CMR 35 for manufactured buildings or building components, approved by the State Board of Building Regulations and Standards, hereinafter known as the BBRs.*

Approved agency: See 780 CMR 1702.0.

Approved material, equipment and methods: Material, equipment and methods evaluated and approved (see 780 CMR 109.0).

Approved rules: The legally adopted rules of the code official (see 780 CMR 106.0).

Appurtenant structure: A device or structure attached to the exterior or erected on the roof of a building designed to support service equipment or used in connection therewith. or for advertising or display purposes, or other similar **uses**.

Architectural terra cotta: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Area, building: See 780 CMR 502.0.

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Area, gross cross-sectional: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Areaway (form of construction): See 780 CMR 3203.2.

Attic: See 780 CMR 1202.0.

Automatic: See 780 CMR 902.0.

Automatic fire suppression system: See 780 CMR 902.0.

Barricade: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Base: See 780 CMR 1612.3.

Base shear: See 780 CMR 1612.3.

Basement: See 780 CMR 502.0.

Bay (part of a structure): See 780 CMR 1612.3.

B.B.R.S.: (Massachusetts) Board of Building Regulations and Standards.

Bed joint: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Bleachers: See 780 CMR 1002.0.

Blocked diaphragm: See 780 CMR 2306.2.

Boiling point: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Box system: *A structural system where the vertical load is carried by bearing walls and structural framing and where the lateral stability and lateral force resisting system consists of shear walls or braced wall.*

Brick

Calcium silicate brick (sand lime brick): See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Clay or shale: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Concrete brick: See 780 CMR 2102.0

Hollow brick: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Building: *A structure enclosed within exterior walls or firewalls, built, erected and framed of a combination of any materials, whether portable or fixed having a roof, to form a structure for the shelter of persons, animals or property. For the purpose of this definition, “roof” shall include an awning or similar covering, whether or not permanent in nature. The word “building shall be construed where the context requires as though followed followed by the words “or parts thereof”. For application of 780 CMR, each portion of a building which is completely separated from other portions by fire walls complying with 780 CMR 707.0 shall be considered as a separate building.*

Building Code Enforcement Official: *The term used to collectively refer to Inspector of Buildings, Building Commissioners, and Local Inspectors. All building code enforcement officials shall meet or exceed the minimum qualifications for the position as defined by M.G.L. c.143, § 3 and shall be certified in accordance with 780 CMR R7.*

Building Commissioner: *The Administrative chief of the building department in a municipality who is charged with the administration and enforcement of 780 CMR (See also “Inspector of Buildings” and 780 CMR 105.0). All building commissioners shall meet or exceed the minimum qualifications for the position as defined in M.G.L. c.143 § 3 and shall be certified in accordance with 780 CMR R7.*

Building Component: *Any subsystem, subassembly, or other system designed for use in or as part of a structure having concealed elements such as electrical, mechanical, plumbing and fire protection systems and other systems protecting health and safety.*

Building, existing: Any structure occupied prior to the date of adoption of the appropriate code, or one for which a legal building permit has been issued. (See also 780 CMR 3400.3.1). For purposes of energy conservation requirements, a building which has been legally occupied and/or used for a period of at least five years.

Building line: The line established by law, beyond which a building shall not extend, except as specifically provided by law.

Building service equipment: The mechanical, electrical and elevator equipment including piping, wiring, fixtures and other accessories, which provides sanitation, lighting, heating, ventilation, fire protection and transportation facilities essential for the habitable occupancy of the building or structure for its designated occupancy.

Building site: The area occupied by a building or structure, including the yards and courts required for light and ventilation, and such areas that are prescribed for access to the street.

Bulk Merchandizing Retail Building: (See 780 CMR 426.0.) *Mercantile Buildings where sales areas contain:*

1. Combustible materials in piles greater than 12 feet in height, or combustible materials on pallets, in racks or on shelves where the top of storage is greater than 12 feet in height, or

2. Combustible materials such as rubber tires, Group A plastics, flammable liquids, idle pallets and commodities with similar heat release characteristics, where the top storage is greater than six feet in height.

Buttress: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Cellar: that portion of a building which is partly or completely below grade and having at least ½ its height below grade.

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Cementitious material: See 780 CMR 1902.0.

Central Station, Central Station Fire Alarm System and Central Station Services: See NFPA 72, as listed in Appendix A.

Certificate of approval: A written document from the appropriate code official approving an action, type of material, and the like.

Certificate of use and occupancy: The certificate issued by the code official which permits the use of a building in accordance with the approved plans and specifications which certifies compliance with provisions of law for the use and occupancy of the building in its several parts together with any special stipulations or conditions of the building permit.

Certification: Any manufactured building or building component that meets the provisions of 780 CMR 35 and the rules and regulations pursuant thereto and which has been labeled accordingly. See also 780 CMR R7 for the certification of Building Code Enforcement Officials

Change of use: An alteration by change of use in a building heretofore existing to a new use group which imposes other special provisions of law governing building construction, equipment or means of egress.

Child day care center: Any facility operated on a regular basis whether known as a day nursery, nursery school, kindergarten, child play school, progressive school child development center, or preschool, or known under any other name, which receives children not of common parentage under seven years of age or under 16 years of age if such children have special needs for non-residential custody and care during part or all of the day separated from their parents. Child day care centers shall not include: any part of a public school system; any part of a private, organized educational system unless the services of such a system are primarily limited to a kindergarten, nursery or related preschool services; a Sunday school conducted by a religious institution; a facility operated by religious organization where children are cared for during short periods of time while persons responsible for such children are attending religious services; a family day care home, as defined by M.G.L. c. 28A, § 9; an informal cooperative arrangement among neighbors or relatives; or the occasional care of children with or without compensation therefor.

Chimney: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Chimney, masonry: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Closed system: See 780 CMR 307.2.

CMR: *Code of Massachusetts Regulations; Appendix A contains a listing of various CMR's for Massachusetts specialized codes.*

Code official: See "Building Code Enforcement Official".

Combination of municipalities: Any two or more cities and/or towns who have agreed to combine in order to share costs necessary for the administration and enforcement of 780 CMR in said cities and/or towns.

Collar joint: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Combustible dusts: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Combustible fibers: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Combustible liquids: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Combustible material: A combustible material is a material which cannot be classified as non-combustible in accordance with 780 CMR 704.4.1.1.

Compliance assurance program: The system, documentation and methods for assuring that manufactured buildings, building components, building systems and manufactured homes, including their manufacture, storage transportation and assembly, and handling and installation, conform with 780 CMR 35 and the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto.

Commercial Building: For purposes of energy conservation requirements only, a **commercial building** is any building other than a *low-rise residential building*, as defined in 780 CMR 2.0 and 780 CMR Appendix J, Section J2.0 (See also *Low-rise residential building definition*.)

Common path of travel: See 780 CMR 1002.0.

Compressed gas: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Concrete: See 780 CMR 1902.0.

Concrete, reinforced: See 780 CMR 1902.0.

Connector: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Construction documents: All of the written, graphic and pictorial documents prepared or assembled for describing the design, location and

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physical characteristics of the elements of the project necessary for obtaining a building permit. The construction drawings shall be drawn to an appropriate scale.

Construction, type of: See 780 CMR 602.0.

Type 1: See 780 CMR 603.0.

Type 2: See 780 CMR 603.0.

Type 3: See 780 CMR 604.0.

Type 4: See 780 CMR 605.0.

Type 5: See 780 CMR 606.0

Control area: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Corridor: See 780 CMR 1002.0.

Corrosive: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Court: See 780 CMR 1202.0.

Inner: See 780 CMR 1202.0.

Outer: See 780 CMR 1202.0.

Court width: See 780 CMR 1202.0.

Cryogenic liquids (flammable or oxidizing): See 780 CMR 307.2.

Curb level: See 780 CMR 3203.2.

Building or wall height: See 780 CMR 3203.2.

Damper, fire: See 780 CMR 702.0.

Day care center (child): See “Child day care center”.

Deflagration: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Deluge system: See 780 CMR 902.0.

Department: (DPS): *The Department of Public Safety, Division of Inspection.*

Design earthquake: See 780 CMR 1612.3.

Designated seismic systems: See 780 CMR 1612.3.

Detached storage building: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Detector, heat: See 780 CMR 902.0.

Detector, smoke: See 780 CMR 902.0.

Detonation: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Detoxification facility: *A facility licensed or operated by the Department of Public Health, Division of Alcoholism in accordance with 105 CMR 160.000: Acute Care Inpatient Substance Abuse Detoxification Treatment Services issued by the Department of Public Health, Division of Alcoholism, Commonwealth*

of Massachusetts, and shall be used to treat individuals acceptable to the program in accordance with 105 CMR 160.000.

Diaphragm: See 780 CMR 1612.3, 2102.0 and 2306.2.

Dimensions, nominal: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Dispensing: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Door assembly, fire: See 780 CMR 702.0.

Door, fire: See 780 CMR 702.0.

DPS: See “Department”.

Draftstopping: See 780 CMR 702.0.

Dumbwaiter: See 780 CMR 30.

Dwellings

Boarding house: See 780 CMR 310.2.

Dormitory: See 780 CMR 310.2.

Dwelling unit: See 780 CMR 310.2.

Hotel: See 780 CMR 310.2.

Motel: See 780 CMR 310.2.

Multiple-family dwelling: See 780 CMR 310.2.

Multiple single-family dwelling: See 780 CMR 310.2.

One-family dwelling: See 780 CMR 310.2.

Two-family dwelling: See 780 CMR 310.2.

Effective height: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Elevator: 780 CMR 30 and 524 CMR.

Freight elevator: See 524 CMR 17.00

Hand elevator: See 524 CMR 18.00

Hydraulic elevator: See 524CMR

Passenger elevator: See 524CMR 17.00

Power elevator: See 524CMR.

Sidewalk elevator: See 524CMR 20.00

Elevator repairs: 780 CMR 30 and 524 CMR.

Emergency control station: See 780 CMR 416.2.

Equipment, existing: Any equipment regulated by 780 CMR which was legally installed prior to the effective date of 780 CMR, or for which a permit to install has been issued.

Escalator: 780 CMR 30 and 524 CMR.

Exit: See 780 CMR 1002.0.

Exit access: See 780 CMR 1002.0.

Exit discharge: See 780 CMR 1002.0.

Exit discharge, level of: See 780 CMR 1002.0.

Exit, horizontal: See 780 CMR 1002.0.

Explosive: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Exterior envelope: See 780 CMR 1302.0.

Exterior wall finish: See 780 CMR 1402.0.

Fabric awning: See 780 CMR 1609.2.

Fabric canopy: See 780 CMR 1609.2.

Fabricated item: See 780 CMR 1702.0.

Fabrication area: See 780 CMR 416.2.

Fire alarm box, manual: See 780 CMR 902.0.

Fire area: See 780 CMR 702.0.

Fire command station: See 780 CMR 902.0.

Fire detector, automatic: See 780 CMR 902.0.

Fire hazard: The potential degree of fire severity based on the occupancy of a structure, classified as high, moderate or low.

High: All occupancies which involve the storage, sale manufacture or processing of highly combustible, volatile flammable or explosive products which are capable of burning with extreme rapidity and produce explosions or large volumes of smoke, poisonous fumes or gases in the event of fire.

Moderate: All occupancies which involve the storage, sale, manufacture or processing of materials which are capable of burning with moderate rapidity and a considerable volume of smoke, but which do not produce either poisonous fumes or explosions. in the event of fire.

Low: All occupancies which involve the storage, sale or manufacture of materials that do not ordinarily burn rapidly, nor produce excessive smoke, poisonous fumes or explosions in the event of fire.

Fire partition: See 780 CMR 702.0.

Fire protection: The provision of construction safeguards and exit facilities; and the installation of fire alarm, fire-detecting and fire-extinguishing service equipment to reduce the fire risk, including the risk involved in the spread of fire by exterior exposure to and from adjoining buildings and structure.

Fire protection rating: See 780 CMR 702.0.

Fire protection system: See 780 CMR 902.0.

Fire window: See 780 CMR 702.0.

Fireresistance: See 780 CMR 702.0.

Fireresistance rating: See 780 CMR 702.0.

Firestopping: See 780 CMR 702.0.

Fire separation assembly: See 780 CMR 702.0.

Fire separation distance: *The distance in feet measured from the building face to the closest interior lot line, to the center line of a street or public way or to an imaginary line between two buildings on the same property.*

Flame spread: See 780 CMR 802.0.

Flame spread rating: See 780 CMR 802.0.

Flameresistance: See 780 CMR 802.0.

Flammable: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Flammable compressed gas: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Flammable liquids: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Flammable solid: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Flash point: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Floor area, gross: See 780 CMR 1002.0.

Floor area, net: See 780 CMR 1002.0.

Floor finish: See 780 CMR 802.0.

Frame

Braced: See 780 CMR 1612.3.

Concentrically braced frame: See 780 CMR 1612.3.

Eccentrically braced frame: See 780 CMR 1612.3.

Diagonal brace: See 780 CMR 1612.3.

Lateral support members: See 780 CMR 1612.3.

Link beam: See 780 CMR 1612.3.

Link beam end web stiffeners: See 780 CMR 1612.3.

Link beam intermediate web stiffener: See 780 CMR 1612.3.

Link beam rotation angle: See 780 CMR 1612.3.

Intermediate moment frame: See 780 CMR 1612.3.

Ordinary moment frame: See 780 CMR 1612.3.

Space frame: See 780 CMR 1612.3.

Special moment frame: See 780 CMR 1612.3.

Frame system

Building: See 780 CMR 1612.3.

Dual: See 780 CMR 1612.3.

Moment resisting: See 780 CMR 1612.3.

Garage, private: See 780 CMR 407.2.

Garage, public: See 780 CMR 408.2.

Grade hallway, grade lobby, grade passageway:
See 780 CMR 1002.0.

Grade plane: See 780 CMR 502.0.

Grandstand: See 780 CMR 1002.0.

Greenhouse: See 780 CMR 3602.

Gross leasable area: See 780 CMR 402.2.

Habitable space: *Space in a structure for living, sleeping, eating, or cooking. Bathrooms, toilet compartments, closets, halls, storage or utility space and similar areas are not considered habitable space.*

Hazard Index: See 780 CMR 3401.0

Hazardous materials: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Hazardous production material (HPM): See 780 CMR 416.2.

Head joint: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Header (Bonder): See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Health hazard: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Heated space: See 780 CMR 1302.0.

Height:
Building: See 780 CMR 502.0.
Court: See 780 CMR 1202.0.
Story: See 780 CMR 502.0.
Walls: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Hereafter: After the time that 780 CMR becomes effective.

Heretofore: Before the time that 780 CMR became effective.

High-temperature energy source: See 780 CMR 1612.3.

Highly toxic: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Hoist, material platform: See 780 CMR 3002.0.

Hoisting and conveying equipment, special: See 524 CMR.
Automotive lift: See 524 CMR.
Conveyors: See 524 CMR.
Freight lift: See 524 CMR.

Manlifts: See 524 CMR.

Hoisting and elevating equipment, miscellaneous:
See 524 CMR.

Incompatible materials: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Inspection, special: See 780 CMR 1705.

Inspector of buildings: *The administrative chief of the building department in a municipality who is charged with the administration and enforcement of 780 CMR. (See also “Building commissioner and Building Code Enforcement Official”). All inspectors of buildings shall meet or exceed the minimum qualifications defined by M.G.L. c. 143, § 3 and shall be certified in accordance with 780 CMR R7.*

Installing Contractor: *an individual or firm duly licensed to install apparatus, appliances, devices or accessories relative to Heating, pumping, process piping and refrigeration systems. (See 780 CMR 2801.2.1 and 1301.1.1).*

Master and Journeyman Pipefitters:
M.G.L. c. 146, §§ 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 87 and 89. 528 CMR 10.00, 11.00, and 13.00

Master and Journeyman Refrigeration Technician:
M.G.L. c. 146, § 45A, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 88 and 89. 528 CMR 10.00, 11.00 and 13.00

Exception: *heating, pumping, process piping and refrigeration systems regulated by M.G.L. c. 142, §§ 4 and 13, State Board of Examiners of Plumbers.*

Inverted pendulum-type structures: See 780 CMR 1612.3.

Irritant: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Jurisdiction: The governmental unit which has adopted 780 CMR under due legislative authority.

Label: See 780 CMR 1702.0.

Light-framed wall with shear panels: See 780 CMR 1612.3.

Listed and Listing: Terms referring to equipment which is shown in a list published by an approved testing agency qualified and equipped for experimental testing and maintaining an adequate periodic inspection of current productions and whose listing states that the equipment complies with nationally recognized standards, when installed in accordance with the manufacturer’s installation instructions.

Load: See 780 CMR 1602.0.

Dead load: See 780 CMR 1602.0.	Lateral soil load: See 780 CMR 1602.0.
Duration of load: See 780 CMR 1602.0.	Live load: See 780 CMR 1602.0.
Earthquake load: See 780 CMR 1602.0.	Wind load: See 780 CMR 1602.0.
Impact load: See 780 CMR 1602.0.	
Internal load: See 780 CMR 1602.0.	

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Loadbearing wall system: See 780 CMR 1612.3.

Local enforcement agency: *A department or agency in a municipality charged with the enforcement of 780 CMR and appropriate specialized codes which include, but are not limited to, 248 CMR: The State Plumbing and Gas Fitting Code, and 527 CMR 12.00: the State Electrical Code.*

Local inspector: *A person in the municipality who assists the building commissioner or inspector of buildings in the performance of his or her duties and is charged with the enforcement of 780 CMR. All local inspectors shall meet or exceed the minimum qualifications defined by M.G.L. c. 143, § 3 and shall be certified in accordance with 780 CMR R7.*

Lot: A portion or parcel of land considered as a unit.

Lot, corner: A lot with two adjacent sides abutting upon streets or other public spaces.

Lot, interior: A lot which faces on one street or with opposite sides on two streets.

Lot line: A line dividing one lot from another, or from a street or any public place.

Lot line, interior: Any lot line other than one adjoining a street or public space.

Lot line, street: The lot line dividing a lot from a street or other public way.

Low-rise residential building: For purposes of energy conservation requirements only, residential occupancy buildings (R-2, R-3, R-4, or R-5) three stories or less in height (Exception: for purposes of energy conservation requirements, R-1 USE GROUP buildings shall be treated as commercial buildings).

Main windforce-resisting system: See 780 CMR 16.

Mall: See 780 CMR 402.2.

Mall building, covered: See 780 CMR 402.2.

Manufactured building: *Any building which has concealed elements, such as electrical, mechanical, plumbing, fire protection, insulation and other systems affecting health and safety, and which is manufactured and assembled in manufacturing facilities, on or off the building site. Also, any building as defined above which does not have concealed elements, but which has been approved by the BBRS at the request of the manufacturer.*

Masonry: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Ashlar facing masonry: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Ashlar masonry: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Solid masonry: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Masonry unit

Clay: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Concrete: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Hollow: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Solid: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Means of egress: See 780 CMR 1002.0.

Member:

Primary: See 780 CMR 1902.0.

Secondary: See 780 CMR 1902.0.

Membrane: See 780 CMR 3103.2.

Membrane structures:

Air-inflated structure: See 780 CMR 3103.2.

Air-supported structure: See 780 CMR 3103.2.

Double skin: See 780 CMR 3103.2.

Single skin: See 780 CMR 3103.2.

Cable-restrained, air-supported structure: See 780 CMR 3103.2.

Membrane-covered cable structure: See 780 CMR 3103.2.

Membrane-covered frame structure: See 780 CMR 3103.2.

Noncombustible membrane structure: See 780 CMR 3103.2.

Tent: See 780 CMR 3103.2.

Mezzanine: See 780 CMR 502.0.

Mobile home: *A structure transportable in one or more sections, which is eight body feet or more in width and is 32 body feet or more in length, and which is built on a permanent chassis, and designed to be used as a dwelling with permanent foundation, when connected to the required facilities, and includes the plumbing, heating, air-conditioning and electrical systems contained therein.*

Mortar: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Mortar, surface-bonding: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Moving walk: See 780 CMR 30.

Native lumber: *Native lumber is wood processed in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts by a mill registered in accordance with 780 CMR R4. Such wood is ungraded but is stamped or certified in accordance with the requirements of 780 CMR R4. For the purpose of this definition, native lumber shall be restricted to the use in*

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one- and two-story dwellings, barns, sheds, agricultural and accessory buildings and other structures when permitted by 780 CMR R4.

Nominal dimension

Lumber: See 780 CMR 2302.0.

Noncombustible: This is a general, relative term. Its precise meaning is defined in 780 CMR for specific applications.

Noncombustible building material: See 780 CMR 704.4.1.1

Occupancy: The purpose for which a building or portion thereof is used.

Occupancy, change of: A change in the purpose or level of activity within a structure that involves a change in application of the requirements of 780 CMR.

Occupant load: See 780 CMR 1002.0.

Occupiable space: See 780 CMR 1202.0.

Occupied: As applied to a building, shall be construed as though followed by the words "or intended, arranged or designed to be occupied."

Official Interpretation: *A written interpretation of any provision of 780 CMR, or to its referenced standards listed in Appendix A, except specialized codes, made by the BBRs, under authority of M.G.L. c. 143, § 94(e), or by the State Building Code Appeals Board under authority of M.G.L. c. 143, § 100.*

Open system: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Organic peroxide: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Oriel window: See 780 CMR 3203.2.

Owner: *Every person who alone or jointly or severally with others (a) has legal title to any building or structure; or (b) has care, charge, or control of any building or structure in any capacity including but not limited to agent, executor, executrix, administrator, administratrix, trustee or guardian of the estate of the holder of legal title; or (c) lessee under a written letter agreement; or (d) mortgagee in possession; or (e) agent, trustee or other person appointed by the courts. Each such person is bound to comply with the provisions of 780 CMR.*

Oxidizer: See 780 CMR 307.2.

P-Delta effect: See 780 CMR 1612.3.

Panel (part of a structure): See 780 CMR 1602.0.

Particleboard: See 780 CMR 2302.1.

Penthouse: See 780 CMR 1502.1.

Permit: An official document or certificate issued by the authority having jurisdiction which authorizes performance of a specified activity (see 780 CMR 111.1).

Person: Includes a corporation, firm, partnership, association, organization and any other group acting as a unit as well as individuals. It shall also include an executor, administrator, trustee, receiver or other representative appointed according to law. Whenever the word "person" is used in any section of 780 CMR prescribing a penalty or fine, as to partnerships or associations, the word shall include the partners or members thereof, and as to corporations, shall include the officer, agent or members thereof who are responsible for any violation of such section..

Physical hazard: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Physically disabled person: See 780 CMR 11.

Place of assembly: *A room or space accommodating 50 or more individuals for religious, recreational, educational, political, social or amusement purposes, or for the consumption of food or drink, including all connected rooms or space with a common means of egress and entrance.*

Place of outdoor assembly: *Premises used or intended to be used for public gatherings of 200 or more individuals in other than buildings.*

Plastic

Light-diffusing system: See 780 CMR 2602.0.

Plastic glazing: See 780 CMR 2602.0.

Plastic roof panels: See 780 CMR 2602.0.

Plastic wall panels: See 780 CMR 2602.0.

Reinforced plastic, glass fiber: See 780 CMR 2602.0.

Thermoplastic material: See 780 CMR 2602.0.

Thermosetting material: See 780 CMR 2602.0.

Platform: See 780 CMR 412.2.

Plenum: *An enclosed portion of the building structure, so designed to allow the movement of air, that forms part of an air distribution system.* See BOCA National Mechanical Code listed in Appendix A.

Pools, swimming, hot tubs and spas

Above-ground/on-ground pool: See 780 CMR 421.2.

Barrier: See 780 CMR 421.2.

- Hot tub:** See 780 CMR 421.2.
- In-ground pool:** See 780 CMR 421.2.
- Private swimming pool:** See 780 CMR 421.2.
- Private swimming pool, indoor:** See 780 CMR 421.2.
- Private swimming pool, outdoor:** See 780 CMR 421.2.
- Public swimming pool:**
- Public outdoor inground swimming pool, Semi-public outdoor inground swimming pool:** See 780 CMR 421.2.
- Spa:** See 780 CMR 421.2.
- Preaction system:** See 780 CMR 902.0.
- Premises:** A lot, plot or parcel of land, including any structure thereon.
- Preservative treatment (treated material):** See 780 CMR 2302.0.
- Protected construction:** See 780 CMR 702.0..
- Public way:** See 780 CMR 1002.0.
- Pyrophoric:** See 780 CMR 307.2.
- Radioactive material:** See 780 CMR 307.2.
- Registered design professional:** An architect or engineer registered or licensed to practice professional architecture or engineering, as defined by the statutory requirements of the professional registration laws of the *Commonwealth of Massachusetts*.
- Repair:** The reconstruction or renewal of any part of an existing structure for the purpose of its maintenance.
- Repairs, ordinary:** *Any maintenance which does not affect the structure, egress, fire protection systems, fire ratings, energy conservation provisions, plumbing, sanitary, gas, electrical or other utilities. A building permit is not required for ordinary repairs (also see 780 CMR 903.1, Exceptions 1 and 2).*
- Required:** Shall be construed to be mandatory by provisions of 780 CMR.
- Resilient stable-mounting system:** See 780 CMR 1612.3.
- Restraining device:** See 780 CMR 1612.3.
- Elastic:** See 780 CMR 1612.3.
- Fixed:** See 780 CMR 1612.3.
- Seismic activated:** See 780 CMR 1612.3.
- Roof:** See 780 CMR 1502.0.
- Roof covering:** See 780 CMR 1502.0.
- Roof structure:** See 780 CMR 1502.0.
- Rubble masonry:** See 780 CMR 2102.0.
- Coursed rubble:** See 780 CMR 2102.0.
- Random rubble:** See 780 CMR 2102.0.
- Rough or ordinary rubble:** See 780 CMR 2102.0.
- Running bond:** See 780 CMR 2102.0.
- Seismic-resisting system:** See 780 CMR 1612.3
- Self-closing:** See 780 CMR 702.0.
- Sensitizer:** See 780 CMR 307.2.
- Service passage, HPM:** See 780 CMR 416.2.
- Shaft:** See 780 CMR 702.0.
- Shall:** The term, where used in 780 CMR, shall be construed as mandatory.
- Shear wall:** See 780 CMR 1612.3.
- Sign:** See 780 CMR 3102.2.
- Closed sign:** See 780 CMR 3102.2.
- Ground sign:** See 780 CMR 3102.2.
- Marquee sign:** See 780 CMR 3102.2.
- Open sign:** See 780 CMR 3102.2.
- Portable sign:** See 780 CMR 3102.2.
- Projecting sign:** See 780 CMR 3102.2.
- Roof sign:** See 780 CMR 3102.2.
- Temporary sign:** See 780 CMR 3102.2.
- Wall sign:** See 780 CMR 3102.2.
- Single membrane penetration:** See 780 CMR 702.0.
- Site:** A parcel of land bounded by a lot line or a designated portion of a public right-of-way.
- Slidescape:** See 780 CMR 1002.0.
- Smoke barrier:** See 780 CMR 702.0.
- Smoke compartment:** See 780 CMR 702.0..
- Smoke detector, multiple station:** See 780 CMR 902.0.
- Smoke detector, single station:** See 780 CMR 902.0.
- Smoke detector, system type:** See 780 CMR 902.0.
- Smokeproof enclosure:** See 780 CMR 1002.0.

780 CMR: STATE BOARD OF BUILDING REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS
THE MASSACHUSETTS STATE BUILDING CODE

Specialized code: *All building codes, rules or regulations pertaining to building construction, reconstruction, alteration, repair or demolition promulgated by and under the authority of the various agencies which have been authorized from time to time by the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.*

Sprinkler: See 780 CMR 902.0

Sprinkler system, automatic: See 780 CMR 902.0.

Sprinkler system, limited area: See 780 CMR 902.0.

Stack bond: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Stage: See 780 CMR 412.2.

Stage, legitimate: See 780 CMR 412.2.

Stage, regular: See 780 CMR 412.2.

Stage, thrust: See 780 CMR 412.2.

Stairway: See 780 CMR 1002.0.

Standpipe system: See 780 CMR 902.0.

State Building Code: *The Massachusetts State Building Code and amendments and rules and regulations thereto as promulgated by the State Board of Building Regulations and Standards, under M.G.L. c. 143 §§ 93 through 100.*

State Inspector: *An employee of the Division of Inspection, State Department of Public Safety, who is charged with administrating and enforcing 780 CMR relative to any structure or building or parts thereof that are owned by the Commonwealth or any departments, commissions, agencies or authorities of the Commonwealth. The state inspector is also charged with supervising the enforcement of 780 CMR relative to all buildings and structures other than those owned by the Commonwealth. See also 780 CMR 107.0.*

Steel construction, cold-formed: See 780 CMR 2202.0.

Steel joist: See 780 CMR 2202.0.

Steel member, structural: See 780 CMR 2202.0.

Stone masonry: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Stone masonry, ashlar: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Stone masonry, rubble: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Storage room, HPM, separate inside: See

780 CMR 416.2.

HPM cutoff room: See 780 CMR 416.2.

HPM inside room: See 780 CMR 416.2.

Story: See 780 CMR 502.0.

Story above grade: See 780 CMR 502.0.

Story drift ratio: See 780 CMR 1612.3.

Story shear: See 780 CMR 1612.3.

Street: A public thoroughfare (such as a street, avenue or boulevard) which has been dedicated for public use.

Structure: A combination of materials assembled at a fixed location to give support or shelter, such as a building, framework, retaining wall, tent, reviewing stand, platform, bin, fences over six feet high, sign, flagpole, recreational tramway, mast for radio antenna, or the like. The word "structure" shall be construed, where the context requires, as though followed by the words, "or part or parts thereof."

Structure, existing: A structure erected prior to the date of adoption of the appropriate code or one for which a legal building permit has been issued. *See 780 CMR 34 for further information regarding existing buildings.*

Supervisory device: See 780 CMR 902.0.

Through-penetration protection system: See 780 CMR 702.0.

Tie, wall: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Tile: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Tile, structural clay: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Tires, bulk storage of: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Travel Trailer: *A vehicular, portable structure built on a chassis and designed to be used for temporary occupancy for travel, recreational or vocational use; with the manufacturer's permanent identification "Travel Trailer," thereon; and when factory equipped for the road, being of any length provided its gross weight does not exceed 4500 pounds, or being of any weight provided its overall length does not exceed 28 feet.*

Use group: The classification of an occupancy in accordance with 780 CMR 302.1.

Vapor retarder: See 780 CMR 1202.0.

Ventilation: See 780 CMR 1202.0.

Vertical opening: See 780 CMR 702.0.

Voice/alarm signaling system: See 780 CMR 902.0.

Wall

Apron wall: See 780 CMR 1402.0.

Cavity wall: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Composite wall: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Dry-stacked, surface-bonded walls: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Faced wall: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Fire separation wall: See 780 CMR 702.0.

Fire wall: See 780 CMR 702.0.

Foundation wall: See 780 CMR 1812.2.

Hollow wall: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Loadbearing wall: See 780 CMR 1602.1.

Nonloadbearing wall: See 780 CMR 1602.1.

Parapet wall: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Party wall: See 780 CMR 702.0.

Retaining wall: See 780 CMR 1812.2.

Skeleton or panel wall: See 780 CMR 1402.0.

Spandrel wall: See 780 CMR 1402.0.

Veneered Wall: See 780 CMR 1402.0

Water-reactive materials: See 780 CMR 307.2.

Water supply, automatic: See 780 CMR 902.0.

Winder: See 780 CMR 1002.0.

Wood shear panel: See 780 CMR 2304.2.

Writing (written): The term shall be construed to include hand-writing, typewriting, printing, photo offset or any other form of reproduction in legible symbols or characters.

Written notice: *A notification in writing delivered in person to the individual or parties intended; or delivered at, or sent by certified or registered mail to the last residential or business address of legal record.*

Wythe: See 780 CMR 2102.0.

Yard: See 780 CMR 1202.0.

Zoning: The reservation of certain specified areas within a community or city for buildings and structures, or use of land, for certain purposes with other limitations such as height, lot coverage and other stipulated requirements. (See M.G.L. c. 40A and St. 1956, c. 665, as amended.)

NON-TEXT PAGE