

2009 IBC/IFC Photoluminescent Signs & Pathway Marking Systems

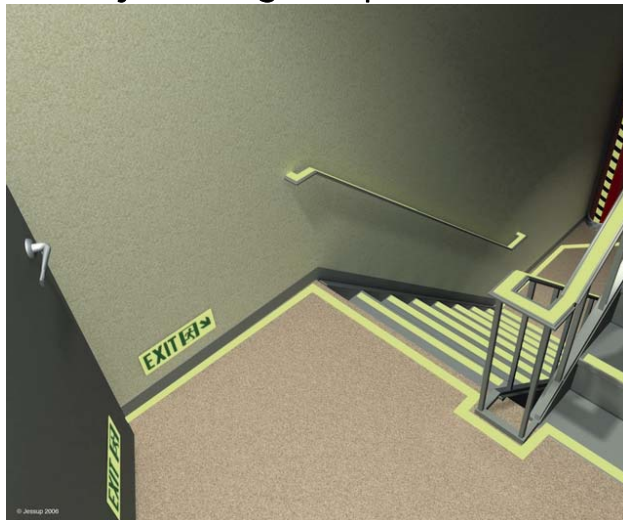
Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the difference between IBC & IFC?
 - a. IBC - International Building Code covers new construction
 - b. IFC - International Fire Code covers existing structures
2. What building occupancy groups are affected by these codes?
 - a. **A** - Assembly (For Public Events)
 - b. **B** - Business
 - c. **E** - Education
 - d. **R-1*** - Hospitality/ Hotels
 - i. **R-1 Residential occupancies containing sleeping units where the occupants are primarily transient in nature, including hotels, motels and boarding houses.*
 - e. **I** - Institutional/ Hospitals
 - f. **M** - Mercantile
3. Does every building, regardless of height need to comply?
 - a. Buildings having occupied floors that are located more than 75 feet (22.86 meters) above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access are required to comply. *Smaller height buildings may also be required to comply per the local AHJ (Authority Having Jurisdiction).*
4. What are the General Egress Marking Requirements?



- a. According to Chapter 10 of the 2009 IBC and IFC (means of egress), luminous markings are required for all doors, steps, landings, handrails, perimeters, and obstacles
- b. Egress path markings shall be provided in *exit enclosures*, including vertical *exit enclosures* and *exit passageways*, in accordance with Sections 1024.2.1 through 1024.2.6.

5. **What are the specifics of Stair Step Markings?**
 - a. A solid and continuous stripe shall be applied to the horizontal leading edge of each step and shall extend for the full length of the step
 - b. The horizontal width of the marking shall be at least 1 inch (25 mm) wide but not more than 2 inches (51 mm) in width.
6. **How far from the leading edge of the Stair Step do the markings need to be placed?**
 - a. a maximum of 1/2 inch (13 mm) from the horizontal leading edge of the step, but the stripe shall not overlap the leading edge by more than 1/2 inch (13 mm) down the vertical side
7. **Should the Leading Edge of the Stair Landing also be Marked?**
 - a. The leading edge of landings shall be marked with a stripe consistent with the dimensional requirements for steps
8. **What are the Requirements for Handrails?**
 - a. All *handrails* and *handrail* extensions shall be marked with a solid and continuous stripe having a minimum width of 1 inch (25 mm)
9. **Where should the Handrail stripe be placed?**
 - a. The handrail stripe shall be placed on the top surface of the *handrail* for the entire length of the *handrail*, including extensions and newel post caps
 - b. Where *handrails* and *handrail* extensions bend or turn corners, the stripe shall not have a gap more than 4 inches (102 mm)
10. **Are any Markings Required on Stair Landings?**

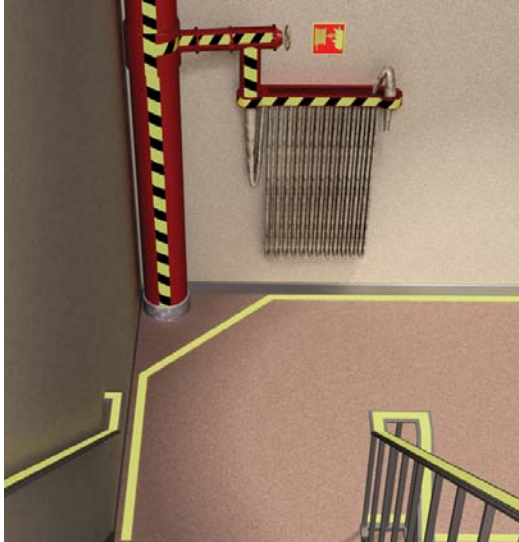


- a. Stair landings and other floor areas within *exit enclosures*, with the exception of the sides of steps, shall be provided with solid and continuous demarcation lines

11. What are the Specifics of the Stair Landing Demarcations?

- a. Stair Landing Demarcation lines shall be 1 to 2 inches (25 mm to 51 mm) wide with interruptions not exceeding 4 inches (102 mm)
- b. Demarcation perimeter lines can be mounted on the Landing Floor or Wall
- c. The Demarcation lines shall create a border around the perimeter of the stair landing as follows:
 1. **Floor Mounted lines** shall be placed within 4 inches (102 mm) of the wall and shall extend to within 2 inches (51 mm) of the markings on the leading edge of landings. The demarcation lines shall continue across the floor in front of all doors*
 - a. * Demarcation lines shall not extend in front of *exit* doors that lead out of an *exit enclosure* and through which occupants must travel to complete the exit path (i.e. exit doors that open to the street or lobby of a building)
 2. **Wall Mounted lines** shall be placed on the wall with the bottom edge of the line no more than within 4 inches (102 mm) above the finished floor.
 - a. At the top or bottom of the *stairs*, wall mounted demarcation lines shall drop vertically to the floor within 2 inches (51 mm) of the step or landing edge
 - b. Wall demarcation lines shall transition vertically to the floor and then extend across the floor where a line on the floor is the only practical method of outlining the path
 - c. Where the wall line is broken by a door, demarcation lines on walls shall continue across the face of the door or transition to the floor and extend across the floor in front of such door*
 - i. * Demarcation lines shall not extend in front of *exit* doors that lead out of an *exit enclosure* and through which occupants must travel to complete the exit path (i.e. exit doors that open to street/lobby)

12. Do Obstacles and Obstructions Need Markings?



- a. Obstacles at or below 6 feet 6 inches (1981 mm) in height and projecting more than 4 inches (102 mm) into the egress path shall be outlined with obstacle markings

13. What are the Obstacle Marking Specifications?

- a. The obstacle markings shall be no less than 1 inch (25 mm) in width comprised of a pattern of alternating equal bands of luminous material and black, with the alternating bands no more than 2 inches (51 mm) thick and angled at 45 degrees (0.79 rad)
 - i. Obstacles shall include, but are not limited to, standpipes, hose cabinets, wall projections and restricted height areas
 1. Obstacle markings shall not conceal any required information or indicators including, but not limited to, instructions to occupants for the use of standpipes

14. Are Door Markings Required?

- a. Doors through which occupants within an *exit* enclosure must pass in order to complete the exit path (i.e. exit doors that open to streets or lobbies) shall be provided with markings complying with Sections 1024.2.6.1 through 1024.2.6.3.

15. What are the Exit Path Door Marking Specifications?



- a. A low-location luminous emergency directional Running Man exit symbol complying with NFPA 170 shall be placed on the door. The exit symbol shall be a minimum of 4 inches (102 mm) in height and shall be mounted on the door, centered horizontally, with the top of the symbol no higher than 18 inches (457 mm) above the finished floor.
- b. Door hardware shall be marked with no less than 16 square inches (406 mm²) of luminous material. This marking shall be located behind, immediately adjacent to or on the door handle and/or escutcheon. Where a panic bar is installed, such material shall be no less than 1 inch (25 mm) wide for the entire length of the actuating bar or touchpad
- c. Door Frames (top and sides) shall be marked with a solid and continuous 1 inch to 2 inch (25 mm to 51 mm) wide stripe. Where the door molding does not provide sufficient flat surface on which to locate the stripe, the strip shall be permitted to be located on the wall surrounding the frame

16. Are any Additional Signs Required?



- a. Every floor landing in exit enclosures that connect more than three stories must have signage designating:
 - i. The identification of the stair or ramp
 - ii. The floor level
 - iii. Braille floor identifier
 - iv. The terminus of the top and bottom of the exit enclosure
 - v. The availability of roof access from the enclosure (for the fire department)
 - vi. The story of and direction to the exit discharge

The sign shall be located 5 feet (1524 mm) above the floor landing in a position that is readily visible when the doors are in the open and closed positions

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