### **ACCESSORY APARTMENT**



# BUILDING PERMIT APPLICATION GUIDE BUILDING SPECIFIC DESIGN REQUIREMENTS

REQUIREMENTS	BUILDING CONDITION		
	A Any Building	B ONLY Buildings 5 years or older	C ONLY Buildings 5 years or older with finished basement
FLOOR FIRE SEPARATION			
Permitted Floor Fire Resistance Rating (FRR)	45 min (1 storey unit) or 1 hour (2 storey unit)	30 min	15 min
Permitted Floor Sound Rating (STC)	50 STC	Min. 43 STC or min. 6" sound insulation	Existing may be acceptable
WALL FIRE SEPARATION			
Permitted Wall Fire Resistance Rating (FRR)	45 min (1 storey unit) 1 hour (2 storey unit)	30 min	30 min
Permitted Door Fire Protection Rating (FPR) (Note: door requires a self-closing device)	20 min (45 min wall) or 45 min (1 hour wall)	20 min	20 min
Permitted Wall Sound Rating (STC)	50 STC	43 STC or entire stud cavity filled with sound insulation	Existing may be acceptable
SUPPORTING STRUCTURE			
Permitted Fire Resistance Rating (FRR) for load bearing walls, beams, and columns	45 min (1 storey unit) or 1 hour (2 storey unit)	30 min	15 min
HVAC SYSTEMS			
Independent Heating Systems Required	Yes	No	
Duct type Smoke Detector Required	No	Yes – must be installed in supply or return air duct system and will completely turn off fuel and electrical supply to the heating system upon activation	
SMOKE ALARMS			
Applies to	Only the new accessory apartment		Both the existing unit and new accessory apartment
Interconnection between dwelling units	Not Required		Required
Required locations and general requirements	Smoke alarms are required on every floor level, in every bedroom, and in hallways serving a bedroom. All smoke alarms within a dwelling unit shall be interconnected and have a visual signaling component (strobe light).		

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NATURAL LIGHT (Minimum)				
Living and Dining Rooms	10% of area served	5% of area served		
Bedrooms and other Finished Rooms	5% of area served	2.5% of area served		
CEILING HEIGHT (Minimum)				
All Rooms	6'-11 over entire floor 6'-5" under beam/duct	6'-5" over all required room areas and any location normally used as a mean of egress		

#### **GENERAL DESIGN REQUIREMENTS**

DOOR SIZES (Minimum)	Minimum Width	Minimum Height	
Dwelling Unit Entrance or Utility Room	32"		
Bedroom or Rooms not mentioned elsewhere	30"	78"	
Bathroom, Washroom, and Walk-in closets	24"		

<b>ROOM SIZES - Separate Spaces</b>	Min. ft <sup>2</sup>	ROOM SIZES - Combined	Min. ft <sup>2</sup>
Living Room	145	Living Room (> 1 bedroom)	145
Dining Room	75	Living Room (1 bedroom)	118
Kitchen (> 1 bedroom)	45	Dining Room	35
Kitchen (1 Bedroom only)	40	Kitchen (> 1 bedroom)	45
Master Bedroom (with closet)	95	Kitchen (1 bedroom)	40
Master Bedroom (without closet)	105	Bedrooms	45
Other Bedroom (with closet)	65		1.00
Other Bedroom (without closet)	75	ROOM SIZES - Bachelor	Min. ft <sup>2</sup>
Bathroom	Sufficient space for fixtures	Living, Dining, Bedroom and Kitchen	145

- · Carbon monoxide alarms are required adjacent to all sleeping rooms
- Each unit shall have access to common laundry facilities or have connections within each unit for the connection of laundry appliances

**Note:** These design tips do not cover all of the requirements for accessory apartments. The person taking responsibility for the design should refer to the 2012 Ontario Building Code (updated to January 1, 2015) for a detailed listing off all requirements. The most current Building Code is available at http://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/120332

















