

CHANGE TYPE: Modification

CHANGE SUMMARY: Doors on wood-burning fireplaces must be listed for the application. The requirement for gasketed doors on fireplaces has been removed.

2015 CODE: N1102.4.2 (R402.4.2) Fireplaces. New wood-burning fireplaces shall have tight-fitting flue dampers or doors, and outdoor combustion air. Where using tight-fitting doors on factory-built fireplaces listed and labeled in accordance with UL 127, the doors shall be tested and listed for the fireplace. Where using tight-fitting doors on masonry fireplaces, the doors shall be listed and labeled in accordance with UL 907.

N1102.4.2, Table N1102.4.1.1 Wood-Burning Fireplace Doors

N1102.4.2, Table N1102.4.1.1 continues

TABLE N1102.4.1.1 (R402.4.1.1) Air Barrier and Insulation Installation

Component	Air Barrier Criteria	Insulation Installation Criteria
Fireplace	An air barrier shall be installed on fireplace walls. Fireplaces shall have gasketed doors.	

(Portions of table not shown for brevity and clarity.)



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Fireplace doors must be listed for the application.

N1102.4.2, Table N1102.4.1.1
continued

CHANGE SIGNIFICANCE: Fireplaces can potentially be major sources of air leakage because of the natural drafting of the chimney. The provisions for doors and dampers on fireplaces intend to reduce air leakage when the fireplace is not in use and improve energy efficiency. In previous code editions, Section N1102.4.2 has required a tight-fitting damper on new wood-burning fireplaces. The general insulation and air barrier requirements in Table N1102.4.1.1 required all fireplaces to have gasketed doors. The combination of a tight-fitting damper, gasketed door, and outdoor combustion air introduced directly into the firebox greatly improves the energy efficiency of this popular feature of homes. However, most factory-built fireplaces are not listed for use with gasketed doors. Factory-built fireplaces must be tested, listed, and labeled in accordance with UL 127 and installed in accordance with the conditions of the listing per IRC Section R1004. Installing a gasketed door that was not listed for use on a factory-built fireplace would be a violation of the listing and could cause a safety hazard if the door was closed while a fire was burning. The requirement for a gasketed door in Table N1102.4.1.1 has been removed and a requirement for a door on all new wood-burning fireplaces has been added to Section N1102.4.2. The code now stipulates that tight-fitting doors installed on wood-burning fireplaces must be listed to the applicable standard.