

Section/Topic	2003 IRC	2006 IRC	Notes/Additional comments
Definitions			
R202 (WA) Definition change: "dwelling unit"	Adult family homes not addressed	Definition now includes adult family homes and day care homes as well as some in-home businesses	
R101.2 Scope of IRC	A 3-story building with a basement was outside the scope of the IRC	3-story one- and two-family dwellings and townhouses with basements are regulated under the IRC	
R202 Definition change: "approved"	Definition of "approved" included other criteria such as conducting investigations or tests	Approved now means acceptable to the building official	
R202 Definition change: "Exterior walls"	Exterior walls were those enclosing conditioned space	Exterior walls are now ALL walls that enclose the building	Will affect fire-resistance for garages, etc
R202 Definition change: "Fire Separation distance"	Measurement taken at right angles from the lot line	Fire separation distance is now measured at right angles from the face of the wall. . . 1. to the closest interior lot line OR 2. to the centerline of a street, etc OR 3. to an imaginary line between the two buildings on the lot	
Building Planning (Chapter 3)			
R313.2 (WA) Smoke alarms	Smoke alarms required in each sleeping room, outside each sleeping area, etc . . .	Smoke alarms now required in napping areas of child day care homes	
R317.2.1 (WA) Fire Separation	The fire-resistance rated wall shall be continuous . . .	Where a story extends beyond the exterior wall of a story below: 1. The fire-resistance-rated wall or assembly shall extend to the outside edge of the upper story; OR 2. The underside of the exposed floor-ceiling assembly shall be protected as required for projections in R302.	Note: Some jurisdictions may define "face of the wall" differently than others; check with your building dept.
R325.6 (WA) Escape windows/doors	Escape Windows & Doors: Every sleeping room shall be provided with emergency escape and rescue windows as required by Section R310	No alternatives to the sill height such as steps, raised platforms or other devices placed by the openings will be approved as meeting this requirement.	
R301.2.2 Seismic Design Categories	Seismic Design categories were A, B, C, D(1), D(2), E	New Seismic Design Category, D(O) (will apply in central WA)	
R301.2.2.2.2 Irregular buildings	Prohibits the use of prescriptive provisions for concrete and wood light-frame construction when the building is located in C, D1 and D2 and considered irregular	Irregular portions of structures shall be designed in accordance with accepted engineering practices to the extent the irregular features affect the performance of the remaining structural system.	Questions remain about how much engineering will be required when part of the structure is "irregular"
Table R301.5 Minimum uniformly distributed live loads	Truss loading criteria for attics with/without storage unclear	Attics with <i>limited storage</i> now have a live load requirement of 20. Guardrails in-fill components now have a live load requirement of 50.	
R303.6.1 Light Activation at Stairways	Activating control required at both the top and bottom of the stairway	Only where a stairway has six or more risers, there must be a wall switch at each floor level to control the lighting outlet.	
R305.1 Sloped Ceilings –	Not included	Sloped Ceilings: 50% of a room's required floor area must have a minimum 7 ft ceiling height	

Important notice: This summary was prepared by BIAW staff and not intended to represent every change made to the 2006 IRC. For the complete set of changes, see the 2006 International Residential Code and the accompanying Washington amendments.

Minimum Height			
R308.4 Glazing/Hazardous locations	Permitted the use of polished wired glass in fire doors, fire windows, etc	Certain glazed areas adjacent to stairways and landings may not be considered 'hazardous' for glazing purposes	Adds more leniency
R309.2 Separation of Detached Garage from Dwelling	No previous requirements where the garage was not attached directly to the dwelling	Detached garages located within 3 ft of the dwelling must be fire protected.	
R310.1 Emergency Escape and Rescue Openings	Emergency openings required only for basements containing habitable space	All basements, regardless of whether the basement contains 'habitable space' must now have at least one emergency escape and rescue opening (except basements less than 200 sq ft in floor area used solely for mechanical purposes)	
R310.4 Operation of Emergency Escape and Rescue Openings	"special knowledge" not included	Operation of emergency escapes and rescue openings must not require keys, tools or special knowledge.	
R310.5 Emergency Openings under Decks & Porches	Section not included	Escape windows are allowed under decks and porches as long as the window can be fully opened and provides a path not less than 36 inches in height to a safe area	
R311.4.3 Landings at Exterior Doors	Nothing specific about slope of exterior landings	Landings at an exterior door may now have a minimal slope for drainage purposes but the slope cannot exceed .25 units vertical to 12 units horizontal (2%)	
R311.5.4 Landings at Garage Stairways	Some garage stairs were considered to be exterior stairs	Landings for garage stairways are not required as long as the door does not swing over the stairs.	Garage stairways added to the list of places where a landing is not needed (in certain situations)
R311.6.1 Maximum slope of ramps	1 unit vertical to 8 units horizontal	Maximum slope for ramps = 1 unit vertical to 12 units horizontal	Updated requirements more consistent with UBC
R312.1 Guards at Elevated Ramps	Section applied to porches, balconies or raised floor surfaces	Ramps that are elevated more than 30 inches above the grade or floor below require a 36-inch-high guard	Ramps are now to be treated like porches or balconies for guard purposes
R313.1 Smoke Alarms and Household Fire Alarm Systems	Alarm required to be audible in bedrooms	Smoke/Fire alarm notification sound must now be audible in all occupiable areas of the dwelling, and be interconnected & hard wired	
R313.2 (WA) Smoke Alarms	Day care homes not included	Alarms must be installed in each sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms, on each additional story of the dwelling, including basements, in napping areas of day care homes When more than one smoke alarm is required in a dwelling unit, devices must be interconnected so that one will activate the others	Many of the Washington amendments incorporate day care and adult family homes into the IRC
R317.1 Fire Separation – Two family dwellings	Attic space above each dwelling in a 2-family unit must be separated by a minimum 1-hour fire-resistance-rated wall assembly	Fire-resistive protection is now allowed at the ceiling line of each unit instead of the wall line in the attic	This creates an alternative method of separating units using both ceiling protection and attic draftstopping
R317.2.1 (WA) Fire Separation – Townhouses	Only one option for townhouse fire separation where there was a	The fire-resistant wall separating townhouses must be continuous from the foundation to the underside of the roof sheathing, deck or slab.	

Important notice: This summary was prepared by BIAW staff and not intended to represent every change made to the 2006 IRC. For the complete set of changes, see the 2006 International Residential Code and the accompanying Washington amendments.

	cantilevered building	Where a story extends beyond the exterior wall of a story below, the fire-resistance rated wall or assembly shall extend to the outside edge of the upper story or the underside of the exposed floor-ceiling assembly shall be protected as required for projections in R302.	
R319.1, R202 Wood Decay Protection	Follow Decay Probability Map	New standards from the American Wood Preservers' Association that apply equally everywhere	Important for building suppliers
R319.1.5 Wood Decay Protection	Not included	Exposed Glued-laminated wood, if not protected by a roof or eave, must be preservative-treated.	See www.awpa.com for more information
R324.1.3.1 Flood Elevations	FEMA/National Flood Insurance Program data	If elevations are not specified, the local building official can use another standard source (state, federal, accepted engineering practices)	
R325.4 WA Locking Devices – Adult Family Homes	Not included	All bedroom & bathroom doors must be openable from the outside when locked Every closet must be readily openable from the inside	
R325.6 WA Escape Windows & doors – Adult family homes	Not included	Every sleeping room must have an emergency escape and rescue windows No alternatives to the sill height will be approved to meet this requirement	
Foundations (Chapter 4)			
R401.3 Drainage	Drains or swales required when 6 inches of fall within 10 ft is not possible	For surface drainage, grade needs to be a minimum of 6 inches within the first 10 ft (with a few exceptions) Swales shall be sloped a minimum of 2% when located within 10 ft of the building foundation	
R403.1 (WA) Footings	Requirements not included	Foundation walls complying with R404 or stem walls complying with R403.1.3 are permitted to support exterior walls, exterior braced wall lines and exterior braced wall panels as long as they are supported by continuous footings	
R403.1.2 (WA) Braced wall panels in Seismic zones D(0), D(1), D(2)	Requirements in code but language not as clear	Braced wall panels at exterior and interior walls must be supported by foundations <u>Exceptions:</u> 1. In buildings in D(0) & D(1), and in one-story buildings in D(2), interior braced wall panels are not required to be supported by foundations, provided no dimension perpendicular to the interior braced wall lines is greater than 50 ft 2. In 2-story buildings in D(2), interior braced wall panels are not required to be supported by foundations provided 4 specific conditions are met (see code for conditions)	This section was re-written to clear up any uncertainty about where footing/foundation support was needed
R403.1.2.1 (WA) Foundations	Section not included	Foundations at braced wall panels shall be constructed of masonry or concrete foundation walls in accordance with 402 and 404, and masonry or concrete footings in accordance with 402 and 403. <u>Exceptions:</u> 1. In under-floor spaces, cripple walls shall be permitted to substitute for masonry or concrete foundation walls provided they comply with the following: ▪ They are located directly below the interior braced wall panels above; ▪ They are braced in accordance with	This section was re-written to address confusion about required locations of footings for foundation support.

Important notice: This summary was prepared by BIAW staff and not intended to represent every change made to the 2006 IRC. For the complete set of changes, see the 2006 International Residential Code and the accompanying Washington amendments.

		<p>Sections 602.10.2 and 602.10.11.4 for cripple wall bracing; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> They are supported by footings complying with 402 and 403, except that the footing of a foundation supporting an interior braced wall panel is not required to be continuous. <p>2. Footings of foundations supporting interior braced wall panels are not required to be continuous but must be constructed beyond the ends of foundation walls, stem walls and cripple walls supporting braced wall panels for a minimum distance of 4 inches and a maximum distance of the footing thickness. <u>The footing extension is not required at intersections with other footings.</u></p>	<p>Also added was the extension requirement “beyond the ends of foundation walls”</p>
<p>R403.1.3 (WA) Reinforcement in Seismic zones D(0), D(1), D(2)</p>		<p>Concrete footings of buildings in D0, D1, D2 shall comply with this section and have minimum reinforcement as specified by 403.1.3.1 or 403.1.3.2. <u>Bottom reinforcement shall be located a minimum of 3 inches from the bottom of the footing.</u></p> <p>Where a construction joint is created between a concrete footing and a <u>concrete</u> stem wall, minimum vertical reinforcement of one No. 4 bar shall be provided at not more than 4 ft on center. The bars shall extend to 3 inches clear of the bottom of the footing, have a standard hook and extend into the stem wall the <u>lesser of 2 inches clear of the top of the wall and 14 inches.</u></p> <p>Where a solidly grouted masonry stem wall is supported on a concrete footing, minimum <u>vertical reinforcement</u> of one No. 4 bar shall be provided at not more than 4 ft on center. The bars shall extend to 3 inches clear of the bottom of the footing, have a standard hook, <u>and extend into the stem wall 2 inches clear of the top of the wall.</u></p> <p><u>Masonry</u> stem walls without solid grout and vertical reinforcing are not permitted</p> <p><u>Concrete and masonry stem walls shall comply with the requirements of 404 for foundation walls.</u> Exception: In detached one-and two- family dwelling <u>of light-framed construction and three stories or less above grade, plain concrete footings supporting walls,</u> columns or pedestals are permitted.</p>	<p>This addresses prior conflicting language regarding the requirement of a minimum of 3 inches</p> <p>Underlined language reflects additions/changes</p>
<p>R403.1.6 (WA) Anchorage at Braced Wall Panels</p>	<p>Section did not reference “footings,” “sole plates” or monolithic slab</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where braced wall panels are supported by monolithic slabs, <u>footings or foundations, the wood sole plates, wood sill plates or cold-formed steel bottom tracks shall be anchored to the slab cast monolithically with a footing or foundation in accordance with this section.</u> The wood sole or sill plate shall be anchored to the monolithic slab, footing or foundation with anchor bolts spaced a maximum of 6 ft on center. 	<p>Language added about footings, sole plates, etc</p>

<p>R403.1.6.1 (WA) Foundation Anchorage in Seismic zones C, D(0), D(1), D(2)</p>	<p>3x3x1/4 inch requirement for plate washers in this section</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plate washers complying with 602.11.1 shall be provided for all anchor bolts over the full length of required braced wall lines. Properly-sized cut washers shall be permitted for anchor bolts in wall lines not containing braced wall panels or in braced wall lines. 	<p>Restrictive plate washer requirement eliminated</p>
<p>R404.1 (WA) Concrete Foundation Walls – lateral bracing</p>	<p>Code did not fully address the effects of lateral loads on foundation walls when the walls are of certain heights and made of certain materials</p>	<p>Foundation walls that meet all of the following requirements are considered "laterally supported":</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full basement floor shall be a minimum 3.5 inches thick concrete slab poured tight against the bottom of the foundation wall Floor joists and blocking shall be connected to sill plate at top of wall or shall be connected with an approved connector Bolt spacing for the sill plate spaced no greater than per table R404.1(2) Floor shall be blocked perpendicular to the floor joists. Blocking shall be full depth within 2 joist spaces of the foundation wall, and be flat-blocked with minimum 2 inch by 4 inch blocking elsewhere Where foundation walls support unbalanced load on opposite sides of the building (e.g. daylight basement), the building aspect ratio shall not exceed the value in Table R404.1(3) <p>Exception (WA amendment): Foundations constructed entirely of concrete with stem walls not exceeding 5 feet in height and supporting less than 4 feet of unbalanced backfill are exempt from the lateral bracing requirements of 404.1</p>	<p>Major change and may result in engineering being the preferred approach</p> <p>**New tables accompanying this section</p> <p>***Special notice: On June 8, 2007, the WA State Building Code Council adopted an emergency rule rejecting the 2006 language in R404.1. This means the 2003 version of R404.1 will stay in effect. (The SBCC will vote on a permanent rule in November 2007)</p>
<p>R404.5 Retaining Walls</p>	<p>Section not included</p>	<p>If wall is not laterally supported at the top and retains in excess of 24 inches of unbalanced fill, it must be designed for a safety factor of 1.5 against lateral sliding and overturning.</p>	<p>Important for designers</p>
<p>R406.1, R406.2 Foundation dampproofing & waterproofing</p>	<p>Dampproofing/waterproofing required for habitable and usable spaces</p>	<p>Dampproofing and waterproofing of concrete and masonry foundations required for all interior and below-grade spaces (Materials may be applied directly to the masonry substrate)</p>	<p>Not just "habitable" spaces anymore This includes crawl spaces.</p>
<p>R408.1, R408.2, R408.3 (WA) Under-floor space</p>	<p>Five exceptions in the 2003 code that allow elimination or reduction of ventilation</p>	<p>Ventilation: The under-floor space between the bottom of the floor joists and the earth under the building must have ventilation openings through foundation walls or exterior walls</p> <p>Openings: minimum net area of ventilation openings not less than 1 sq ft for each 300 sq ft of area and the vents must be covered</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allowed materials: perforated sheet metal plates not less than .070 inch thick, expanded sheet metal plates not less than .047 inch thick, cast-iron grill or grating, extruded load-bearing brick vents, hardware cloth of .035 inch wire or heavier, corrosion-resistant wire mesh with the least dimension being 1/8 inch <p>WA Amendment: ONLY ONE SIDE PERMITTED TO HAVE NO OPENINGS.</p>	

Important notice: This summary was prepared by BIAW staff and not intended to represent every change made to the 2006 IRC. For the complete set of changes, see the 2006 International Residential Code and the accompanying Washington amendments.

Floors (Chapter 5)			
R502.2.1 & R602.10.8 Framing at Braced Wall lines & Connections	No specific provisions for creating a load path in certain situations where lateral forces are transferred to the foundation system	A load path for lateral force required between floor framing and braced wall panels located above or below a floor Connections: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where joists are perpendicular to braced wall lines <i>above</i>, blocking needs to be under and in line with the braced wall panels Where joists are perpendicular to braced wall lines <i>below</i>, blocking needs to be over and in line with the braced wall panels Where joists are parallel to braced wall lines above or below, a rim joist or other parallel framing member is required at the wall 	Adds cross-reference between Chapter 5 & Chapter 6
R502.5(1) Girder Spans and Header Spans for exterior bearing walls	Spans for headers and headers for ground snow loads of 30 and 50 psf only	New spans provide more requirements where the ground snow load is greater than 50 psf and eliminate the need for engineering solutions	**New table R502.5(1) accompanying this section
R502.13 Fireblocking	Code implied that fireblocking was required for floor and floor-ceiling assemblies	No fireblocking requirements for floor and floor-ceiling assemblies	
Table R503.2.1.1(1) Spans and loads for roof/subfloor sheathing	Table was not user friendly and did not address most common spacings	New table for the most common framing spacings – 16 inches and 24 inches	***Note new table
Wall Construction (Chapter 6)			
Table R602.3(1) Fastener Schedule	Information on nail diameter and length not included	New Table: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diameter and length of each nail added Minimum requirements added for collar ties and ridge straps Requirement to provide framing and blocking at roof plane perimeters eliminated; fastening at required blocking is required instead. 	**Also see revised table R602.3(2) for increases in length and decreased spacing of some fasteners used as alternate attachments .
R602.3.2 Top Plate	Joints required to be offset but no specification for spacing/location of the joint	Top plate joints are not required to occur over studs (with double top plate).	2003 was effectively silent on this
R602.3.4 (WA) Bottom (sole) plate	Not included	Studs must have full bearing on a 2-inch nominal or larger plate or sill that has a width at least equal to the width of the studs	
R602.6.1 Top Plate – Drilling & Notching	Said “shall be fastened to each plate across . . .” and was interpreted to mean that two plates are required at each cut	When a top plate is cut, notched or drilled by more than 50% of its width, only one metal tie is required when connecting double top plates	
R602.10.5 (WA) Continuous wood structural panel sheathing	Alternate way to provide wall bracing required by code that recognizes value of walls that are fully sheathed. Must use method 3 and includes the use of method 3 on interior braced wall lines.	Amended language clarifies that only the exterior walls will be continuously sheathed using method 3. Interior braced wall panels that are required will be provided by any method allowed in the code and as called for location and amount shown in the applicable tables.	
R602.10.11.1 through R602.10.11.5 (WA) Bracing in Seismic zones D(0), D(1), D(2)	25 ft was the maximum New seismic category was not included	Structures in these categories must have exterior and interior braced wall lines Maximum spacing of braced wall lines is 25 ft <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exception: one and two story buildings to accommodate an area of up to a maximum of 	

Important notice: This summary was prepared by BIAW staff and not intended to represent every change made to the 2006 IRC. For the complete set of changes, see the 2006 International Residential Code and the accompanying Washington amendments.

		<p>900 sq ft</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spacing of interior and exterior braced wall lines can now exceed 25 ft and go up to 35 ft for a single room up to 900 sq ft 	
<p>Table R602.10.6 Alternate Braced Wall Panels – one story building</p>	<p>Table not included in 2003 code</p> <p>Minimum panel length of 2 ft 8 inches and maximum panel height of 10 ft</p>	<p>Alternate braced wall panels constructed in accordance with one of the following provisions are permitted to replace each 4 ft of braced wall panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each panel sheathed on one face with 3/8-inch-minimum thickness sheathing Two anchor bolts provided in each panel Anchor bolts placed in from each end of the panel a horizontal distance of one-fourth the panel width Each panel end stud must have a tie-down device Panels must be supported directly on the foundation or on floor framing supported directly on a foundation which is continuous across the entire length of the braced wall line 	<p>Minimum/Maximum panel height and length eliminated to give more flexibility</p>
<p>R602.10.6.2 Alternate Bracing – Wall Panel adjacent to a door or window</p>	<p>Section not included</p>	<p>Instead of the 48 or 32-inch wide bracing unit, alternate braced wall panels constructed in accordance with one of the following:</p> <p><u>For 1-story buildings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> each panel shall have a length of not less than 16 inches and height not more than 10 ft Each panel sheathed on one face with a layer of 3/8-inch-minimum thickness wood structural panel sheathing Where a panel is located on one side of the opening, the header must extend between the inside face of the first full-length stud of the panel and the bearing studs at the other end of the opening <p>In the first story of two-story buildings, each wall panel must be braced – but each wall panel must be 24 inches or more in length</p>	<p>New alternative bracing method that utilizes the header over the adjacent opening</p>
<p>R602.10.7 (WA) Panel Joints</p>	<p>No “minimum 2 inches”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All vertical joints of panel sheathing shall occur over, and be fastened to, common studs Horizontal joints in braced wall panel shall occur over, and be fastened to common blocking of a <u>minimum 2 inches</u> in nominal thickness 	
<p>R602.10.8, R602.11.2 Connections</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Braced wall panel bottom plates must be fastened to the floor framing. Sill plates must be fastened to the footing, foundation or slab Buildings in Seismic Design categories D0, D1, D2: fasten braced wall panels in accordance with Table R602.3(1), and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Floor joists parallel to the top plate must be toe-nailed to the top plate with at least 8d nails spaced a maximum of 6 inches on center Top plate laps must be face nailed with at least eight 16d nails on each side of the splice 	<p>This section re-worked to differentiate between bottom plate of a wall and a sill plate that is bolted</p>
<p>R602.11.1</p>	<p>No provision for diagonally</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alternative method for diagonally slotted holes 	

Important notice: This summary was prepared by BIAW staff and not intended to represent every change made to the 2006 IRC. For the complete set of changes, see the 2006 International Residential Code and the accompanying Washington amendments.

Wall Anchorage	slotted holes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Use of diagonal slotted holes in the plate washers now permitted – Plate washer thickness reduced from ¼" nominal to .229 actual thickness 	
R613.1 Window Installation	Requirement not included	Window manufacturers must provide installation instructions. Installation must comply with the window's installation instructions.	
R613.2 Window sills	No provision for operable windows that are more than 72 inches above exterior finished grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where the opening of a window is located more than 72 inches above the exterior finished grade or surface below, the lowest part of the window's clear opening must be a minimum of 24 inches above the finished floor of the room where the window is located. • Glazing between the floor and 24 inches shall be fixed or have openings such that a 4-inch diameter sphere cannot pass through. 	
R613.4 (WA) Window testing and labeling	Not included	Custom windows and doors manufactured by a small business are exempt from test requirements in R613 if they meet the requirements of Ch. 24 in the IBC	This section was added to let small custom window manufacturers out of the onerous testing requirements in Chapter 6
Wall Covering (Chapter 7)			
R702.3.7 Horizontal Gypsum Board Diaphragm Ceiling	Section not included	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gypsum board permitted on wood joists to create a horizontal diaphragm (see Table R702.3.7) • Gypsum Board must be installed perpendicular to ceiling framing members • End joints of adjacent courses of board cannot occur on the same joist • Gypsum board cannot be used to resist lateral forces imposed by masonry or concrete 	Makes IRC more consistent with IBC
R702.4.2 Cement, Fiber Cement and Glass Mat Gypsum Backers	Use of green board allowed behind shower and tub walls	Green gypsum board is no longer allowed to be used as a backer behind tiled tub and shower walls	
R703.1 General Draining Exterior Wall Assemblies	Section not included Water-resistive barrier was not required for all siding	A means of draining water that enters the assembly to the exterior must be provided Protection against condensation in the exterior wall assembly is required	Washington SBCC has issued an official interpretation that says this section does not require a rain shield and it does not prevent single-wall construction. A "water-resistive barrier" under the final wall covering (felt paper or other approved material) is enough to comply with the section. Do not need a rain screen to comply with this section.
R703.2, R703.4 Water Resistive barrier	<u>Weather-resistant sheathing paper or material</u> required. Exception for some siding types	Weather resistant changed to <u>water-resistive barrier</u> Felt (or other approved material) required to be applied over exterior wall studs or sheathing must be continuous to the top of walls Regardless of the type of siding, a water-resistive barrier is required	This applies regardless of the type of veneer or siding used **Modified table R703.4 accompanies this section
R703.6.3 Water Resistive barrier – behind plaster	No specific method of protection for wood-based sheathing that is placed behind exterior plaster	For wood-based sheathing attached to the building exterior behind plaster, either -2 layers of Grade D paper applied to the sheathing, or -Another vapor barrier equivalent to 2 layers of Grade	

Important notice: This summary was prepared by BIAW staff and not intended to represent every change made to the 2006 IRC. For the complete set of changes, see the 2006 International Residential Code and the accompanying Washington amendments.

		D paper	
R703.8 Flashing	Provisions existed for self-flashing windows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flashing at exterior window and door openings shall extend to the surface of the exterior wall finish OR the water-resistive barrier Flashing is required at all exterior window jambs All provisions for self-flashing windows are eliminated 	
Roof-Ceiling Construction (Chapter 8)			
R802.1.5 Structural Log Members	No provisions for regulation/grading of logs used as structural members for floors, walls, roofs	Stress grading of structural logs of non-rectangular shape shall be in accordance with ASTM D3957 Logs must be identified by the grade mark of an approved lumber grading or inspection agency or have a certificate of inspection	Change for log house construction
R802.3.1 Table R802.5.1(9) Ceiling Joist and Rafter Connections	Assumes that the ceilings or rafter ties are connected to the rafters at the top of the bearing wall but this is not always the case	When rafter ties are located higher than the top of the wall plates, additional connectors are now required	**See accompanying modified table
Table R802.5.1(1) through Table R802.5.1(8) Rafter Spans for Common Lumber	Rafters can be placed higher in the attic without any limitation	Rafter ties and ceilings can no longer be placed higher than the lower one-third of the attic area	
Roof Assemblies (Chapter 9)			
R905.2.6 Asphalt Shingles	No requirements for labeling of shingle wrappers for shingles used in high-wind areas	The wrappers for asphalt shingles being used in areas subject to wind speeds of 110 mph or greater must have a label indicating that the shingles use special fastening method – complying with ASTM D3161 Class F	
R905.2.7.1 Ice Barrier	Threshold was “average daily temperature of 25 degrees F or less”	Trigger for requirement of “ice barriers” has been modified to whether “there has been a history of ice forming along the eaves”	
Table R905.10.3(1) and Table R905.10.3(2) Metal Roof Coverings Standards	Nine different metal roof coverings included	New application rates/thickness addressing additional metal roofing materials: -galvanized steel -stainless steel -steel -cold rolled copper	
Mechanical Systems (Chapter 13)			
M1305.1 Appliance Access for Inspection, Service, Repair & Replacement	Working space dimension requirements not included	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appliances shall be accessible for service, etc. without removing other appliances or any other piping or ducts not connected to the appliance being serviced. A level working space at least 30 inches deep and 30 inches wide shall be provided in front of the control side to service an appliance 	
M1305.1.3 M1305.1.4 Appliances in Attics & Appliances under Floor	Specific access requirements not included	Access path to mechanical equipment in attics and under floor spaces can now be longer than 20 ft. New rules: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to 50 ft for attics; Unlimited <i>length</i> for under floor spaces, but still need 6 ft <i>height</i> and 22 inches <i>wide</i> 	
M1308.3 Foundations & Supports	Provision applied only to heat pumps	Outdoor mechanical systems must be raised at least 3 inches above the finished grade	Applies to all mechanical units; not just heat pumps

Important notice: This summary was prepared by BIAW staff and not intended to represent every change made to the 2006 IRC. For the complete set of changes, see the 2006 International Residential Code and the accompanying Washington amendments.

Heating & Cooling Equipment (Chapter 14)			
M1411.3.1 Auxiliary & Secondary Drain System	Specifies 3 options for preventing damage where the equipment is located in attics, etc.	Additional method added to detect blockage in the drain line of cooling coils or evaporators – a water level detection device that will automatically shut off the equipment	
M1411.3.1.1 Water Level Monitoring Devices	Section not included	For down-flow units and all other coils that have NO secondary drain and no means to install an auxiliary drain pan, a water level monitoring device must be installed inside the primary drain pan	
M1411.4 Auxiliary Drain Pan	Section not included	Category IV condensing appliances must now have an auxiliary drain pan --Exception: Fuel-fired appliances that automatically shut down	
Exhaust Systems (Chapter 15)			
M1501.1 Outdoor Discharge M1506.2 No Recirculation of Air	Nothing about bathroom, laundry room exhaust, etc	Air removed by every mechanical exhaust system shall be discharged to the outdoors – NOT exhausted into an attic, soffit, ridge vent or crawl space <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exception: whole-house ventilation type attic fans that discharge into the attic space of dwelling units having private attics shall be permitted Exhaust air from bathrooms shall be discharged to the outdoors – NOT exhausted into an attic, soffit, ridge vent or crawl space	
M1502.6 Duct Length	2003 code allows use of booster fan	Maximum length of a clothes dryer exhaust duct is limited to 25 ft <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No longer an exception allowing booster fans to be installed for longer lengths New exception: Where large radius 45 degree and 90 degree bends are installed, determination of the equivalent length of clothes dryer exhaust duct for each bend is permitted (in accordance with ASHRAE engineering standards) 	
504.6.3 WA Clothes Dryer Exhaust	Not included	<u>NEW SECTION</u> Protection required. Plates or clips shall be placed where nails or screws from finish or other work are likely to penetrate the clothes dryer exhaust duct. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plates or clips shall be placed on the finished face of all framing members where there is less than 1-1/4 inches (32 mm) between the duct and the finished face of the framing material. The plate or clip shall be steel not less than 1/16 inch (1.59 mm) in thickness and of sufficient width to protect the duct. 	
Hydronic Piping (Chapter 21)			
M2103.1 Piping Materials M2103.2 Piping Joints M2104.2 Joints for Low-Temperature Piping	Some standards for PEX & PP not included	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cross-linked polyethylene (PEX) tubing or polypropylene now included as “piping materials” New provisions and standards for the use of PEX in hydronic systems Polypropylene pipe and tubing joints shall be installed with socket-type heat-fusion polypropylene fittings Cross-linked polyethylene (PEX) tubing shall be joined using cold expansion, insert or 	**See accompanying modified tables M2101.1 & M2101.9

Important notice: This summary was prepared by BIAW staff and not intended to represent every change made to the 2006 IRC. For the complete set of changes, see the 2006 International Residential Code and the accompanying Washington amendments.

		<p>compression fittings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Polypropylene (PP) tubing shall be installed in accordance with manufacturer’s instructions 	
Fuel Gas (Chapter 24)			
*applies to natural gas, not propane			
G2404.3 “Listed and Labeled”	Implication that products did not have to undergo any testing	Appliances regulated by this code shall be listed and labeled for the application in which they are used unless otherwise approved	
G2415.1 Prohibited Locations for Gas Piping	Allowed for piping running through multiple units	The installation of townhouse gas piping through adjacent townhouse units is prohibited	
G2415.5 & G2426.7 Protection Against Physical Damage	Requirement is closer than 1 inch	<p>Gas piping (other than black or galvanized steel) located in concealed locations must be protected by steel shield plates when located closer than 1.5 inches (increase from 1 inch).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shield plates shall extend 4” above sill and below top plates and each side of studs, joist rafters 	
G2415.6 Piping in Solid Floors	Conduits are referred to as “casings” which is not an accurate term	Conduits used for gas piping in solid floors must be sealed and vented to the outdoors and shall be installed so as to prevent the entry of water and insects	
G2421.3 Venting of Regulators G2421.3.1 Vent Piping G2403 Breather & Relief	2003 did not specify that venting shall be “directly to the outdoors”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pressure regulators that require a vent shall be vented directly to the outdoors and designed to prevent entry of insects, water and foreign objects ▪ Lines serving as relief vents cannot be manifolded ▪ Breather vents can be connected to a manifold arrangement 	
G2422.1 Connecting Appliances	Does not recognize CSST	Corrugated Stainless Steel Tubing (CSST) is now acceptable as an appliance connector	
Appendices adopted in WA			
Appendix F – Radon	Applied in Ferry, Okanogan, Pend Orielle, Skamania, Spokane, Stevens	Now applies in Clark County	
Appendix G – Swimming Pools/Hot Tubs	Did not apply in WA	Appendix G now applies in WA: Swimming pools and hot tubs must now be surrounded by a 48-inch barrier Hot tubs with certain approved safety covers are also considered compliant	
Washington State ENERGY CODE			
Table 5-1 Component Performance Method		<p>Climate Zone 1: Target window U-factor changed to 0.35 Target wall U-factor changed to 0.057</p> <p>Climate Zone 2: Target window U-factor changed to 0.35 Target wall U-factor changed to 0.044</p>	Stringency of the component performance method has increased
Table 6-1, 6-2 Building Envelope – Prescriptive Options		<p>Climate Zone 1: Option I, the U-factor for windows changed to 0.32 (Glazing limited to 10% of floor area) Option II, the U-factor for windows changed to 0.35 Option IV, the U-factor for windows changed to 0.35</p> <p>Climate Zone 2: Option I, R-21int wall, 0.35 windows (glazing limited to 12% of conditioned floor space</p>	See accompanying tables

Important notice: This summary was prepared by BIAW staff and not intended to represent every change made to the 2006 IRC. For the complete set of changes, see the 2006 International Residential Code and the accompanying Washington amendments.

		Option V, R-19+R-5 foam wall, 0.35 windows. Unlimited glazing Option VI, R-21int wall, 0.30 windows, R-49 attic, unlimited glazing	
602.6 Exterior Doors	Any door could be called a window when included in the glazing percentage	Opaque doors must meet the door U-factor requirement (Glazed doors are considered to be windows)	One unregulated door up to 24 square ft is still allowed
Table 5-1 footnote 3 & table 6-1 footnote 3 Single Rafter Joist		If there is room in the joist for R-38 insulation, R-38 is required. (Applies to all single rafter joist 13" or greater in depth) R-30 single rafter joist now limited to 500 sq ft of roof area. Add'l rafter area must use R-38	
502.4.4 Recessed Lighting	Other options allowed in place of air sealing	Required to be tested for air leakage using ASTM E283 Gasket or caulking must seal the fixture to the drywall	Look for the label in the can – if not labeled, the fixture does not comply
505.3 Outdoor Lighting		High efficiency lighting or controls required for all porch lighting (high efficiency typically refers to a pin based compact fluorescent fixture)	A motion sensor + photo daylight control may be used instead
505.4 Linear Fluorescent Fixtures		Linear fluorescent fixtures must be fitted with T-8 or smaller lamps (but not T-10 or T-12)	
503.2.2 Prescriptive Space Heating System Sizing	Chapter 9 Prescriptive Space Heating System Sizing deleted in 2006 code. See IRC M1401.3	Size limited to 150% of heating load	
For more information on the WA State Energy Code, visit www.energy.wsu.edu/code/code2006.cfm			