

2021 Virginia Construction Code

CHAPTER 26 PLASTIC

SECTION 2608 LIGHT-TRANSMITTING PLASTIC GLAZING

2608.1 Buildings of Type VB construction.

Openings in the *exterior walls* of buildings of Type VB construction, where not required to be protected by [Section 705](#), shall be permitted to be glazed or equipped with light-transmitting plastic. Light-transmitting plastic glazing shall comply with [Section 2606](#).

2608.2 Buildings of other types of construction.

Openings in the *exterior walls* of buildings of types of construction other than Type VB, where not required to be protected by [Section 705](#), shall be permitted to be glazed or equipped with light-transmitting plastic in accordance with [Section 2606](#) and all of the following:

1. The aggregate area of light-transmitting plastic glazing shall not exceed 25 percent of the area of any wall face of the *story* in which it is installed. The area of a single pane of glazing installed above the first story above grade plane shall not exceed 16 square feet (1.5 m²) and the vertical dimension of a single pane shall not exceed 4 feet (1219 mm).

Exception: Where an *automatic sprinkler system* is provided throughout in accordance with [Section 903.3.1.1](#), the area of allowable glazing shall be increased to not more than 50 percent of the wall face of the story in which it is installed with no limit on the maximum dimension or area of a single pane of glazing.

2. Approved flame barriers extending 30 inches (762 mm) beyond the *exterior wall* in the plane of the floor, or vertical panels not less than 4 feet (1219 mm) in height, shall be installed between glazed units located in adjacent stories.

Exception: Buildings equipped throughout with an *automatic sprinkler system* in accordance with [Section 903.3.1.1](#).

3. Light-transmitting plastics shall not be installed more than 75 feet (22 860 mm) above grade level.

Exception: Buildings equipped throughout with an *automatic sprinkler system* in accordance with [Section 903.3.1.1](#).