

2021 Virginia Construction Code

CHAPTER 15 ROOF ASSEMBLIES AND ROOFTOP STRUCTURES

SECTION 1504 PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

1504.1 Wind resistance of roofs.

Roof decks and roof coverings shall be designed for windloads in accordance with Chapter 16 and Sections 1504.2, 1504.3, 1504.4 and 1504.5.

1504.2 Wind resistance of asphalt shingles.

Asphalt shingles shall be tested in accordance with ASTM D7158. Asphalt shingles shall meet the classification requirements of Table 1504.2 for the appropriate maximum basic wind speed. Asphalt shingle packaging shall bear a label to indicate compliance with ASTM D7158 and the required classification in Table 1504.2.

Exception: Asphalt shingles not included in the scope of ASTM D7158 shall be tested and labeled in accordance with ASTM D3161. Asphalt shingle packaging shall bear a label to indicate compliance with ASTM D3161 and the required classification in Table 1504.2.

TABLE 1504.2

CLASSIFICATION OF STEEP SLOPE ROOF SHINGLES TESTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ASTM D3161 OR D7158

MAXIMUM BASIC WIND SPEED, V, FROM FIGURES 1609.3(1)-(8) OR ASCE 7 (mph)	MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE STRESS DESIGN WIND SPEED, V_{asd} , FROM Table 1609.3.1 (mph)	ASTM D7158 ^a CLASSIFICATION	ASTM D3161 or UL 7103 CLASSIFICATION
110	85	D, G or H	A, D or F
116	90	D, G or H	A, D or F
129	100	G or H	A, D or F
142	110	G or H	F
155	120	G or H	F
168	130	H	F
181	140	H	F
194	150	H	F

For SI: 1 foot = 304.8 mm; 1 mph = 0.447 m/s.

- The standard calculations contained in ASTM D7158 assume Exposure Category B or C and building height of 60 feet or less. Additional calculations are required for conditions outside of these assumptions.

1504.3 Wind resistance of clay and concrete tile.

Wind loads on clay and concrete tile roof coverings shall be in accordance with Section 1609.5.

1504.3.1 Testing.

Testing of concrete and clay roof tiles shall be in accordance with Sections 1504.3.1.1, 1504.3.1.2 and 1504.3.1.3.

1504.3.1.1 Overturning resistance.

Concrete and clay roof tiles shall be tested to determine their resistance to overturning due to wind in accordance with Chapter 15 and either SBCCI SSTD 11 or ASTM C1568.

1504.3.1.2 Wind tunnel testing.

Where concrete and clay roof tiles do not satisfy the limitations in Chapter 16 for rigid tile, a wind tunnel test shall be used to determine the wind characteristics of the concrete or clay tile roof covering in accordance with Chapter 15 and either SBCCI SSTD 11 or ASTM C1569.

1504.3.1.3 Air permeability testing.

The lift coefficient for concrete and clay tile shall be 0.2 or shall be determined in accordance with SBCCI SSTD 11 or ASTM C1570.

1504.4 Wind resistance of nonballasted roofs.

Roof coverings installed on roofs in accordance with Section 1507 that are mechanically attached or adhered to the roof deck shall be designed to resist the design wind load pressures for components and cladding in accordance with Section 1609.5.2. The wind load on the roof covering shall be permitted to be determined using allowable stress design.

1504.4.1 Other roof systems.

Built-up, modified bitumen, fully adhered or mechanically attached single-ply roof systems, metal panel roof systems applied to a solid or closely fitted deck and other types of membrane roof coverings shall be tested in accordance with FM 4474, UL 580 or UL 1897.

1504.4.2 Structural metal panel roof systems.

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Where the *metal roof panel* functions as the *roof deck* and *roof covering* and it provides both weather protection and support for *loads*, the structural metal panel roof system shall comply with this section. Structural standing-seam metal panel roof systems shall be tested in accordance with [ASTM E1592](#) or [FM 4474](#). Structural through-fastened metal panel roof systems shall be tested in accordance with [ASTM E1592](#), [FM 4474](#) or [UL 580](#).

Exceptions:

1. Metal roofs constructed of cold-formed steel shall be permitted to be designed and tested in accordance with the applicable referenced structural design standard in [Section 2210.1](#).
2. Metal roofs constructed of aluminum shall be permitted to be designed and tested in accordance with the applicable referenced structural design standard in [Section 2002.1](#).

1504.4.3 Metal roof shingles.

Metal roof shingles applied to a solid or closely fitted deck shall be tested in accordance with [ASTM D3161](#), [FM 4474](#), [UL 580](#) or [UL 1897](#). *Metal roof shingles* tested in accordance with [ASTM D3161](#) shall meet the classification requirements of [Table 1504.2](#) for the appropriate maximum basic wind speed and the metal shingle packaging shall bear a label to indicate compliance with [ASTM D3161](#) and the required classification in [Table 1504.2](#).

1504.5 Ballasted low-slope single-ply roof systems.

Ballasted low-slope (roof slope < 2:12) single-ply roof system coverings installed in accordance with [Section 1507.12](#) shall be designed in accordance with [ANSI/SPRI RP-4](#).

1504.6 Edge systems for low-slope roofs.

Metal edge systems, except gutters and counterflashing, installed on built-up, modified bitumen and single-ply roof *systems having a slope less than 2 units vertical in 12 units horizontal (2:12)* shall be designed and installed for wind *loads* in accordance with [Chapter 16](#) and tested for resistance in accordance with Test Methods RE-1, RE-2 and RE-3 of [ANSI/SPRI ES-1](#), except basic design *wind speed, V*, shall be determined from [Figures 1609.3\(1\)](#) through [1609.3\(12\)](#) as applicable.

1504.6.1 Gutter securement for low-slope roofs.

Gutters that are used to secure the perimeter edge of the roof membrane on low-slope (less than 2:12 slope) builtup, modified bitumen, and single-ply roofs, shall be designed, constructed and installed to resist wind loads in accordance with [Section 1609](#) and shall be tested in accordance with Test Methods G-1 and G-2 of SPRI GT-1.

1504.7 Physical properties.

Roof coverings installed on low-slope roofs (roof slope < 2:12) in accordance with [Section 1507](#) shall demonstrate physical integrity over the working life of the roof based on 2,000 hours of exposure to accelerated weathering tests conducted in accordance with [ASTM G152](#), [ASTM G154](#) or [ASTM G155](#). Those *roof coverings* that are subject to cyclical flexural response due to wind *loads* shall not demonstrate any significant loss of tensile strength for unreinforced membranes or breaking strength for reinforced membranes when tested as herein required.

1504.8 Impact resistance.

Roof coverings installed on low-slope roofs (roof slope < 2:12) in accordance with [Section 1507](#) shall resist impact damage based on the results of tests conducted in accordance with [ASTM D3746](#), [ASTM D4272](#) or the "Resistance to Foot Traffic Test" in [FM 4470](#).

1504.9 Wind resistance of aggregate-surfaced roofs.

Parapets shall be provided for aggregate surfaced roofs and shall comply with [Table 1504.9](#).

**TABLE 1504.9
MINIMUM REQUIRED PARAPET HEIGHT (INCHES) FOR AGGREGATE SURFACED ROOFS^{a, b, c}**

AGGREGATE SIZE	MEAN ROOF HEIGHT (ft)	WIND EXPOSURE AND BASIC DESIGN WIND SPEED (MPH)																	
		Exposure B										Exposure C ^d							
		≤ 95	100	105	110	115	120	130	140	150	≤ 95	100	105	110	115	120	130	140	150
ASTM D1863 (No. 7 or No. 67)	15	2	2	2	2	12	12	16	20	24	2	13	15	18	20	23	27	32	37
	20	2	2	2	2	12	14	18	22	26	12	15	17	19	22	24	29	34	39
	30	2	2	2	13	15	17	21	25	30	14	17	19	22	24	27	32	37	42
	50	12	12	14	16	18	21	25	30	35	17	19	22	25	28	30	36	41	47
	100	14	16	19	21	24	27	32	37	42	21	24	26	29	32	35	41	47	53
	150	17	19	22	25	27	30	36	41	46	23	26	29	32	35	38	44	50	56
ASTM D1863 (No. 6)	15	2	2	2	2	12	12	12	15	18	2	2	2	13	15	17	22	26	30
	20	2	2	2	2	12	12	13	17	21	2	2	12	15	17	19	23	28	32
	30	2	2	2	2	12	12	16	20	24	2	12	14	17	19	21	26	31	35
	50	12	12	12	12	14	16	20	24	28	12	15	17	19	22	24	29	34	39
	100	12	12	14	16	19	21	26	30	35	16	18	21	24	26	29	34	39	45
	150	12	14	17	19	22	24	29	34	39	18	21	23	26	29	32	37	43	48

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For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm; 1 foot = 304.8 mm; 1 mile per hour = 0.447 m/s.

- a. Interpolation shall be permitted for mean roof height and parapet height.
- b. Basic design wind speed, V , and wind exposure shall be determined in accordance with [Section 1609](#).
- c. Where the minimum required parapet height is indicated to be 2 inches (51 mm), a gravel stop shall be permitted and shall extend not less than 2 inches (51 mm) from the roof surface and not less than the height of the aggregate.
- d. For Exposure D, add 8 inches (203 mm) to the parapet height required for Exposure C and the parapet height shall not be less than 12 inches (305 mm).