

# 2021 Virginia Construction Code

## CHAPTER 26 PLASTIC

### SECTION 2609 LIGHT-TRANSMITTING PLASTIC ROOF PANELS

#### 2609.1 General.

Light-transmitting plastic roof panels shall comply with this section and [Section 2606](#). Light-transmitting plastic roof panels shall not be installed in Groups H, I-2 and I-3. In all other groups, light-transmitting plastic roof panels shall comply with any one of the following conditions:

1. The building is equipped throughout with an *automatic sprinkler system* in accordance with [Section 903.3.1.1](#).
2. The roof construction is not required to have a *fire-resistance rating* by [Table 601](#).
3. The roof panels meet the requirements for roof coverings in accordance with [Chapter 15](#).

#### 2609.2 Separation.

Individual roof panels shall be separated from each other by a distance of not less than 4 feet (1219 mm) measured in a horizontal plane.

##### Exceptions:

1. The separation between roof panels is not required in a building equipped throughout with an *automatic sprinkler system* in accordance with [Section 903.3.1.1](#).
2. The separation between roof panels is not required in low-hazard occupancy buildings complying with the conditions of [Section 2609.4](#), Exception 2 or 3.

#### 2609.3 Location.

Where *exterior wall* openings are required to be protected by [Section 705.8](#), a roof panel shall not be installed within 6 feet (1829 mm) of such *exterior wall*.

#### 2609.4 Area limitations.

Roof panels shall be limited in area and the aggregate area of panels shall be limited by a percentage of the floor area of the room or space sheltered in accordance with [Table 2609.4](#).

##### Exceptions:

1. The area limitations of [Table 2609.4](#) shall be permitted to be increased by 100 percent in buildings equipped throughout with an *automatic sprinkler system* in accordance with [Section 903.3.1.1](#).
2. Low-hazard occupancy buildings, such as *swimming pool* shelters, shall be exempt from the area limitations of [Table 2609.4](#), provided that the buildings do not exceed 5,000 square feet (465 m<sup>2</sup>) in area and have a minimum *fire separation distance* of 10 feet (3048 mm).
3. *Greenhouses* that are occupied for growing or maintaining plants, without public access, shall be exempt from the area limitations of [Table 2609.4](#) provided that they have a minimum *fire separation distance* of 4 feet (1220 mm).
4. Roof coverings over terraces and patios in occupancies in Group R-3 shall be exempt from the area limitations of [Table 2609.4](#) and shall be permitted with light-transmitting plastics.

**TABLE 2609.4**  
**AREA LIMITATIONS FOR LIGHT-TRANSMITTING PLASTIC ROOF PANELS**

CLASS OF PLASTIC	MAXIMUM AREA OF INDIVIDUAL ROOF PANELS (square feet)	MAXIMUM AGGRE GATE AREA OF ROOF PANELS (percent of floor area)
CC1	300	30
CC2	100	25

For SI: 1 square foot = 0.0929 m<sup>2</sup>.

Copyright © 2024 International Code Council, Inc., or its licensors (ALL RIGHTS RESERVED).

Accessed by Venkatesh Shanmugam on 11/14/2024 pursuant to License Agreement with ICC. No further reproduction or distribution authorized. Any Unauthorized reproduction or distribution is a violation of the federal copyright, and subject to civil and criminal penalties thereunder.