

2021 Virginia Construction Code

CHAPTER 12 INTERIOR ENVIRONMENT

SECTION 1210 TOILET AND BATHROOM REQUIREMENTS

[P] 1210.1 Required fixtures.

The number and type of plumbing fixtures provided in any occupancy shall comply with [Chapter 29](#).

[P] 1210.2 Finish materials.

Walls, floors and partitions in toilet and bathrooms shall comply with [Sections 1210.2.1](#) through [1210.2.4](#).

[P] 1210.2.1 Floors and wall bases.

In other than *dwelling units*, toilet, bathing and shower room floor finish materials shall have a smooth, hard, nonabsorbent surface. The intersections of such floors with walls shall have a smooth, hard, nonabsorbent vertical base that extends upward onto the walls not less than 4 inches (102 mm).

[P] 1210.2.2 Walls and partitions.

Walls and partitions within 2 feet (610 mm) of service sinks, urinals and water closets shall have a smooth, hard, nonabsorbent surface, to a height of not less than 4 feet (1219 mm) above the floor, and except for structural elements, the materials used in such walls shall be of a type that is not adversely affected by moisture.

Exception: This section does not apply to the following buildings and spaces:

1. Dwelling units and *sleeping units*.
2. Toilet rooms that are not accessible to the public and that have not more than one water closet.

Accessories such as grab bars, towel bars, paper dispensers and soap dishes, provided on or within walls, shall be installed and sealed to protect structural elements from moisture.

[P] 1210.2.3 Showers.

Shower compartments and walls above bathtubs with installed shower heads shall be finished with a smooth, nonabsorbent surface to a height not less than 72 inches (1829 mm) above the drain inlet.

[P] 1210.2.4 Waterproof joints.

Built-in tubs with showers shall have waterproof joints between the tub and adjacent wall.

[P] 1210.3 Privacy.

Public restrooms shall be visually screened from outside entry or exit doorways to ensure user privacy within the restroom. This provision shall also apply where mirrors would compromise personal privacy. Privacy at water closets and urinals shall be provided in accordance with [Sections 1210.3.1](#) and [1210.3.2](#).

Exception: Visual screening shall not be required for single-occupant toilet rooms with a lockable door.

1210.3.1 Water closet compartment.

Each water closet utilized by the public or employees shall comply with [Sections 1210.3.1.1](#) and [1210.3.1.2](#), as applicable. All fully-enclosed compartments shall be provided with occupancy indicators.

Exceptions:

1. A separate room or compartment shall not be required in a single-occupant toilet room with a lockable door.
2. Toilet rooms located in child day care facilities and containing two or more water closets shall be permitted to have one water closet without an enclosing compartment.
3. This provision is not applicable to toilet areas located within Group I-3 occupancy housing areas.

1210.3.1.1 Separate facilities.

Each water closet provided in separate facilities shall occupy a separate compartment with walls or partitions and a door enclosing the fixtures to ensure privacy and shall comply with [Section 405.3.1](#) of the *Virginia Plumbing Code* (VPC). Accessible water closets and compartments shall comply with [ICC A117.1](#).

1210.3.1.2 Multi-user gender-neutral facilities.

Each water closet provided in a multi-user gender-neutral toilet facility shall occupy a separate compartment with walls or partitions including the doors thereto, which shall extend to the floor and to the ceiling with maximum $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch (13 mm) clearances at the floor and ceiling, with gaps not exceeding $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch (3 mm) between the doors and partitions and partitions and walls, and shall comply with [Section 405.3.1](#) of the VPC. Accessible water closet compartments shall comply with [ICC A117.1](#) and the increased toe clearance requirements.

1210.3.2 Urinal separation and partitions.

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Each urinal utilized by the public or employees shall occupy a separate area with walls or partitions to provide privacy and comply with [Sections 1210.3.2.1](#) and [1210.3.2.2](#), as applicable. All fully-enclosed compartments shall be provided with occupy indicators.

Exceptions:

1. Urinal partitions shall not be required in a single-occupant or family- or assisted-use toilet room with a lockable door.
2. Toilet rooms located in child day care facilities and containing two or more urinals shall be permitted to have one urinal without partitions.
3. A separate room or compartment shall not be required in a single-occupant toilet room with a lockable door.
4. This provision is not applicable to toilet areas located within Group I-3 occupancy housing areas.

1210.3.2.1 Separate facilities.

The walls or partitions for urinals in separate facilities shall begin at a height not more than 12 inches (305 mm) from and extend not less than 60 inches (1524 mm) above the finished floor surface. The walls or partitions shall extend from the wall surface at each side of the urinal not less than 18 inches (457 mm) or to a point not less than 6 inches (152 mm) beyond the outermost front lip of the urinal measured from the finished backwall surface, whichever is greater.

1210.3.2.2 Multi-user gender-neutral facilities.

Each urinal provided in a multi-user gender-neutral toilet facility shall occupy a separate compartment with walls or partitions, including the doors thereto, where the partitions extend to the floor and to the ceiling with maximum $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch (13 mm) clearances, with gaps not exceeding $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch (3 mm) between the doors and partitions and partitions and walls, or shall all be located in a separate room with a door, enclosing the urinals to ensure privacy. Where an accessible urinal is located within a compartment, grab bars shall not be required for the urinal, the door shall be located to allow for a forward approach to the urinal, and increased toe clearances shall be provided in accordance with [ICC A117.1](#).