
	BUILDING DEVELOPMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES RESIDENTIAL INSPECTIONS MECHANICAL/GAS	Effective Date: November 16, 2006
		Supersedes Policy Dated: March 8, 1998
	4.4.4 Mechanical Exhaust for Bathrooms and Toilet Rooms	Issued by: Eric M. Mays, P.E.  Building Official

The International Residential Code (IRC), R303.3 Bathroom states when a mechanical ventilation system is provided, “the ventilation air from the space shall be exhausted directly to the outside.” The ventilation air exhaust for bathrooms and toilet rooms may terminate to the outside:

1. On the exterior wall;
2. Against a gable vent;
3. Against a soffit vent; or
4. Against a ridge vent. If the blocking at the ridge vent prevents the duct from being terminating against the ridge vent, the exhaust duct may terminate at the blocking.

It is critical that the ventilation air exhaust be unobstructed. At the termination of the exhaust duct at a gable, soffit or ridge vent, the exhaust duct and its opening shall not be reduced by more than fifty percent (50%).