

Loudon County Planning & Codes

2012 IRC – DUCT INSTALLATION & INSULATION



2012 International Residential Code ®

INSULATION

N1103.2 Ducts.

N1103.2.1 Insulation. Supply and return ducts shall be insulated to a minimum of R-8 if in the attic. All other ducts shall be insulated to a minimum of R-6. **Exception:** Ducts or portions thereof located completely inside the building thermal envelope.

N1103.2.2 Sealing. Ducts, air handlers, filter boxes and building cavities used as ducts shall be sealed. Joints and seams shall comply with Section M1601.4.1.

N1103.2.3 Building cavities. Building framing cavities shall not be used as supply ducts.

DEFINITIONS

BUILDING THERMAL ENVELOPE. The basement walls, exterior walls, floor, roof and any other building element that enclose conditioned spaces or provides a boundary between conditioned space and exempt or unconditioned space.

CONDITIONED SPACE. An area or room within a building being heated or cooled, containing uninsulated ducts, or with a fixed opening directly into an adjacent conditioned space.

GARAGE DUCT INSTALLATION

R302.5.2 Duct penetration. Ducts in the garage and ducts penetrating the walls or ceilings separating the dwelling from the garage shall be constructed of a minimum No. 26 gage (0.48 mm) sheet steel or other approved material and shall have no openings into the garage.

R302.5.3 Other penetrations. Penetrations through the separation required in Section R302.6 shall be protected as required by Section R302.11, Item 4.