

**TITLE:** FIRE ESCAPE  
**VERSION:** V2.2  
**DATE PUBLISHED:** 06/23/22

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**DEFINITION:** An apparatus on the outside of a building used for escaping from a building on fire.  
**PURPOSE:** Provides a means of alternative emergency egress from the interior of the building to the exterior.  
**COMMON COMPONENTS:** Stairs; Ladder; Platform; Guardrail; Handrail; A counterbalanced stairway; Drop ladder  
**LOCATION:**  Unit None  
 Inside None  
 Outside Exterior of building—typically high-rises and other multi-story buildings—near windows and exterior doors.  
**MORE INFORMATION:** A blocked fire escape should be evaluated under the Egress standard.

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**DEFICIENCY 1:** Fire escape component is damaged or missing.  
**LOCATION:**  Outside

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DEFICIENCY I — OUTSIDE: FIRE ESCAPE COMPONENT IS DAMAGED OR MISSING.

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DEFICIENCY CRITERIA: Any stair, ladder, platform, guardrail, or handrail is damaged (i.e., visibly defective; impacts functionality).  
OR  
Any stair, ladder, platform, guardrail, or handrail is missing (i.e., evidence of prior installation, but now not present or is incomplete).

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HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION: Life-Threatening      The Life-Threatening category includes deficiencies that, if evident in the home or on the property, present a high risk of death to resident.

CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

HCV PASS / FAIL: Fail

HCV CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

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INSPECTION PROCESS:

OBSERVATION: - Check the fire escape stairs, platforms, guardrails, and handrails for damage, deterioration, or any condition that renders the component unusable or unsafe to traverse.  
- Inspect for missing fire escape components.

REQUEST FOR HELP: - None

ACTION: - None

MORE INFORMATION: - If a window or door leading to the fire escape is blocked, refer to the Egress standard.  
- If the fire escape itself is blocked, refer to the Egress standard.  
- There is no requirement for inspectors to go on the fire escape as this is a visual observation from the ground or unit.

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**SUMMARY OF CHANGES**

**TITLE:** FIRE ESCAPE  
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FIELD	CHANGE	VERSION	DATE
----	<b>Abbreviated published version</b>	<b>V2.2</b>	<b>2022-06-23</b>
Name Variants	Removed from published version		
Common Materials	Removed from published version		
Rationale	Removed from published version		
Tools or Equipment	Removed from published version		
----	<b>Copyedits</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>2021-04-02</b>
<b>Deficiency I</b>		<b>V2.0</b>	<b>2020-10-28</b>
Health and Safety Determination	Added standardized description		
HCV Pass / Fail	Field added; response input as "Fail"		
<b>Overall Formatting</b>	<b>Complete rework of document format and layout</b>	<b>V1.3</b>	<b>2020-07-31</b>
<b>Definition</b>	<b>Revised definition</b>	<b>V1.3</b>	<b>2020-07-31</b>
<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Field added</b>	<b>V1.3</b>	<b>2020-07-31</b>
<b>Name Variants</b>	<b>Revised name variants</b>	<b>V1.3</b>	<b>2020-07-31</b>
<b>Common Components</b>	<b>Revised common components</b>	<b>V1.3</b>	<b>2020-07-31</b>
<b>More Information</b>	<b>Field added</b>	<b>V1.3</b>	<b>2020-07-31</b>
<b>Deficiency I</b>	<b>Separated by inspectable location – Outside</b>	<b>V1.3</b>	<b>2020-07-31</b>
Title	Added inspectable location		
Deficiency Criteria	Revised deficiency criteria		
Health and Safety Determination	Revised to "Life-Threatening" determination; added standardized description		
Correction Timeframe	Field added; response input as "24 hours"		
HCV – Correction Timeframe	Field added; response input as "24 hours"		

Rationale	Revised rationale categories, types, and explanations; added standardized codes and descriptions		
Inspection Process	Revised observation, request for help, action, and more information		
Tools or Equipment	Field added to deficiency		
<b>Definition</b>	<b>Updated</b>	<b>VI-I</b>	<b>2019-11-26</b>
<b>Most Common Materials</b>	<b>Updated</b>	<b>VI-I</b>	<b>2019-11-26</b>
<b>Most Common Components</b>	<b>Updated</b>	<b>VI-I</b>	<b>2019-11-26</b>
<b>Tools for Location and Inspection</b>	<b>Updated</b>	<b>VI-I</b>	<b>2019-11-26</b>
<b>Common Locations</b>	<b>Updated</b>	<b>VI-I</b>	<b>2019-11-26</b>
<b>How to Locate</b>	<b>Updated</b>	<b>VI-I</b>	<b>2019-11-26</b>
<b>Deficiency 1</b>	<b>Updated</b>	<b>VI-I</b>	<b>2019-11-26</b>
Title	Updated		
Rationale	Updated		
How to Inspect	Updated		
Inspection Process and Procedures	Updated		
Report Deficiency if	Updated		
<b>Deficiency 2</b>	<b>Eliminated; incorporated into Deficiency 1</b>	<b>VI-I</b>	<b>2019-11-26</b>
<b>Deficiency 3</b>	<b>Eliminated; incorporated into Deficiency 1</b>	<b>VI-I</b>	<b>2019-11-26</b>