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EGRESS WINDOW REQUIREMENTS

Egress window requirements as per the National Building Code of Canada as set out in section 9.9.10 of the 2020 edition.

- 1) Windows shall provide an unobstructed opening of not less than 0.35m² (542.5in²) in area.
 - a. No dimension shall be less than 380mm (15in).
- 2) When applicable window well clearance shall be of not less than 760mm (30in) in front of the window.
 - a. Where the sash of a window swings towards the window well, the operation of the sash shall not reduce the clearance in a manner that would restrict escape in an emergency.
 - b. Where a protective enclosure is installed over the window well the enclosure shall be openable from the inside without the use of keys, tools or special knowledge of the opening mechanism.
- 3) It is recommended that the sills of windows intended for use as emergency exits be not higher than 1.5m (4ft, 11in) above the floor. However, it is sometimes difficult to avoid having a higher sill, on skylights and windows in basement bedrooms for example. In these cases, it is recommended that access to the windows be improved by some means such as built-in furniture installed below the window.