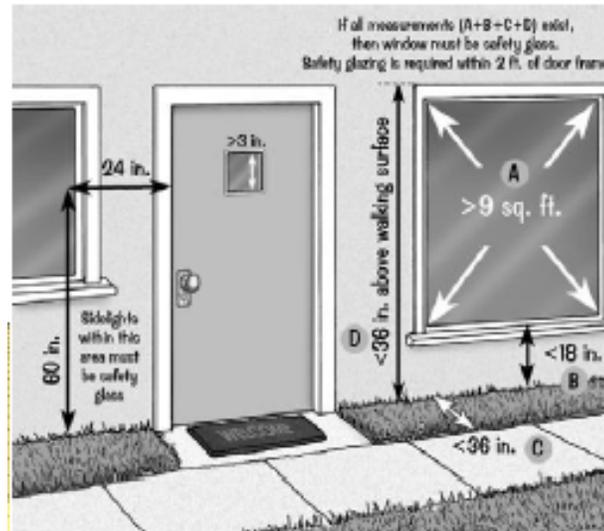


**Safety Glazing - Windows**  
International Residential Code (IRC) R308

The following information addresses requirements for **all new and replacement** windows/glazing.



**R308.4 Hazardous locations.**

The locations specified in Sections R308.4.1 through R308.4.7 shall be considered specific hazardous locations for the purposes of glazing.

**R308.4.1 Glazing in doors.**

Glazing in all fixed and operable panels of swinging, sliding and bi-fold doors shall be considered a hazardous location.

**Exceptions:**

1. Glazed opening of a size through which a 3-inch-diameter (76 mm) sphere is unable to pass.
2. Decorative glazing.

**R308.4.2 Glazing adjacent doors.**

Glazing in an individual fixed or operable panel adjacent to a door where the nearest vertical edge of the glazing is within a 24-inch (610 mm) arc of either vertical edge of the door in a closed position and where the bottom exposed edge of the glazing is less than 60 inches (1524 mm) above the floor or walking surface shall be considered a hazardous location.

**Exceptions:**

1. Decorative glazing.
  2. When there is an intervening wall or other permanent barrier between the door and the glazing.
  3. Where access through the door is to a closet or storage area 3 feet (914 mm) or less in depth.
- Glazing in this application shall comply with section R308.4.3.
4. Glazing that is adjacent to the fixed panel of patio doors.

## Safety Glazing - Windows

International Residential Code (IRC) R308

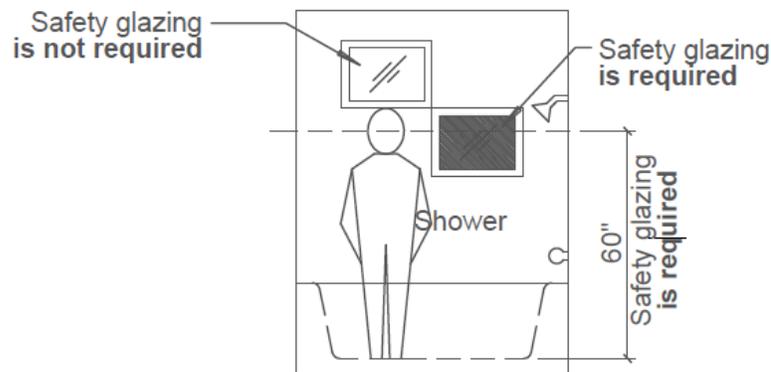
### R308.4.3 Glazing in windows.

Glazing in an individual fixed or operable panel that meets all of the following conditions shall be considered a hazardous location:

1. The exposed area of an individual pane is larger than 9 square feet ( $0.836 \text{ m}^2$ );
2. The bottom edge of the glazing is less than 18 inches (457 mm) above the floor;
3. The top edge of the glazing is more than 36 inches (914 mm) above the floor; and
4. One or more walking surfaces are within 36 inches (914 mm), measured horizontally and in a straight line, of the glazing.

#### Exceptions:

1. Decorative glazing.
2. When a horizontal rail is installed on the accessible side(s) of the glazing 34 to 38 inches (864 to 965 mm) above the walking surface. The rail shall be capable of withstanding a horizontal load of 50 pounds per linear foot (730 N/m) without contacting the glass and be a minimum of 1 1/2 inches (38 mm) in cross sectional height.
3. Outboard panes in insulating glass units and other multiple glazed panels when the bottom edge of the glass is 25 feet (7620 mm) or more above *grade*, a roof, walking surfaces or other horizontal [within 45 degrees ( $0.79 \text{ rad}$ ) or horizontal] surface adjacent to the glass exterior.



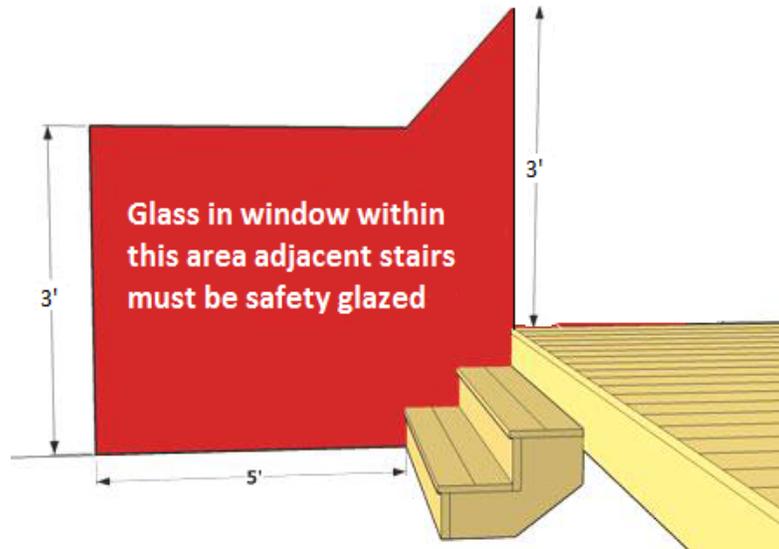
### R308.4.5 Glazing and wet surfaces.

Glazing in walls, enclosures or fences containing or facing hot tubs, spas, whirlpools, saunas, steam rooms, bathtubs, showers and indoor or outdoor swimming pools where the bottom exposed edge of the glazing is less than 60 inches (1524 mm) measured vertically above any standing or walking surface shall be considered a hazardous location. This shall apply to single glazing and all panes in multiple glazing.

#### Exception:

Glazing that is more than 60 inches (1524 mm), measured horizontally and in a straight line, from the water's edge of a bathtub, hot tub, spa, whirlpool or swimming pool.

**Safety Glazing - Windows**  
International Residential Code (IRC) R308



**R308.4.6 Glazing adjacent stairs and ramps.**

Glazing where the bottom exposed edge of the glazing is less than 36 inches (914 mm) above the plane of the adjacent walking surface of stairways, landing between flights of stairs and ramps shall be considered a hazardous location.

**Exceptions:**

1. When the rail is installed on the accessible side(s) of the glazing 34 to 38 inches (864 to 965 mm) above the walking surface. The rail shall be capable of withstanding a horizontal load of 50 pounds per linear foot (730 N/m) without contacting the glass and be a minimum of 1 1/2 inches (38 mm) in cross sectional height.
2. Glazing 36 inches (914 mm) or more measured horizontally from the walking surface.

**R308.4.7 Glazing adjacent to the bottom stair landing.**

Glazing adjacent to the landing at the bottom of a stairway where the glazing is less than 36 inches (914 mm) above the landing and within 60 inches (1524 mm) horizontally of the bottom tread shall be considered a hazardous location.