

INTERPRETATION:

Policy effective August 17, 2010

- updated June 1, 2018 for 2017 Pikes Peak Regional Building Code

UNDER-STAIR PROTECTION

Section R302.7, 2015 International Residential Code

R302.7. Under-stair protection. Enclosed accessible space under stairs shall have walls, under-stair surface and any soffits protected on the enclosed side with ½ "-inch (12.7 mm) gypsum board.

INTERPRETATION:

Minimum ½ inch drywall is required for under stair protection where the area under the stair is framed in and is provided with an entry door or access panel.

COMMENTARY:

From the 2015 IRC Commentary R302.7:

Often times the space under a stairway is used for storage because this space is often of little use for other purposes. The code permits the use of an open space beneath a stair without the need for any additional protection. Additionally, if the space is walled off and there is no access to the area, the code is also not concerned. If, however, the area beneath the stairway is enclosed and any type of access is provided into the space, the walls, soffits and ceilings of the enclosed space must be protected on the enclosed side with at least ½ - inch (12.7 mm) gypsum board