

Los Angeles
Fire Department Requirements

Section 57.110.15-OPEN FLAME

No person shall use upon the stage, in the dressing room, or within the public area of any assemblage occupancy, any open flame, except by authority of a written Special Permit from the Chief. This permit shall be available for inspection at all times.

EXCEPTION: The preceding provision is not construed to prohibit the following: *The use of candles and candle holding devices, as part of a religious ritual, ceremony or service, provided that such candles are located in a portion of a room, building, or premises not normally occupied by any persons except those charged with ministrations duties, and provided that such candles are safely supported in an approved manner.*

The request for the Special Permit must be made in person, with the type of candles, holding device, and floral arrangement (if used), to the Los Angeles Fire Department, Fire Prevention Bureau.

Candles used at events shall be regulated and permitted using the same standards as indoor assemblages unless otherwise specified by this requirement.

Solid fuel open flame decorative devices shall be in compliance with FPB Requirement No. 129A.

CONDITIONS OF USE:

Unprotected, and gel type candles are not permitted.

1. All candles shall be secured in a nonflammable solid holding device and protected by an enclosure. Exception: Floating candles may not need to be secured.
2. The flame tip from the candle must be maintained a minimum of 2 inches below the top opening of an enclosure or "Hurricane" at all times.
3. When used as part of a decoration or centerpiece, the flame of the candle
4. not be within 6 inches of fresh foliage, nor within 12 inches of dry foliage or other combustibles at any time.

SAMPLES



LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT
Fire Prevention Bureau

**GUIDELINE FOR SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR HAUNTED
HOUSES**

PURPOSE

This guide is intended to provide safety standards and regulations for the construction and operation of temporary structures.

SCOPE

These regulations shall apply to temporary Haunted Houses, Ghosts Walks, or similar operations open to the public; where combustible decorative material and confusing sounds and/or visual effects are present.

DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this guideline, certain terms and words are defined as follows:

Haunted House A temporary or permanent building or structure, or portion thereof, which contains a system that transports passengers or provides a walkway through a course so arranged that the means of egress are not apparent due to theatrical distractions, not visible due to low illumination, are disguised or are not readily available due to the method of transportation through the building or structure.

Ghost Walks Similar to Haunted House and may include both indoor or outdoor areas where egress to a public way is similarly not readily identifiable.

REFERENCES

1998 California Building Code, 1998 California Fire Code, and California code of Regulations, Title 19.

exiting should an evacuation become necessary. Staffing level shall be determined upon review of plans and may be increased at the discretion of the inspector.

- E. All emergency staff shall carry flashlights and know the location of all exits, fire extinguishers, light switches, electrical panels, and emergency phones.
- F. A fire drill may be required.
- G. Phone communication shall be readily available for the purpose of calling 911 in the event of an emergency.

2. Exits

- A. Two exits shall be provided from each room with an occupant load of 50 or more. Required exit doors shall swing in the direction of egress.
- B. Illuminated exit signs, with battery back up, shall be provided at each exit serving an occupant load of 50 or more. Non-illuminated exit signs shall be provided for all exits serving an occupant load less than 50.
- C. Exit doors serving an occupant load of 50 or more shall not be provided with a latch or lock unless it is panic hardware.
- D. Emergency lighting, with battery back up, shall be provided in all rooms, areas and exit pathways when serving an occupant load of 100 or more.
- E. Exhibit and decorative materials shall not obstruct, confuse or obscure exits, exit pathways, exit signs or emergency lighting units.
- F. An additional pathway marking, including low level marking and signs may be required at time of field inspection.

3. Fire Protection

- A. Approved automatic fire sprinkler systems, when provided, shall not be obstructed nor altered. For additional information contact the Department of Building and Safety (LADBS) at 213 482-0357.
- B. Approved automatic smoke detection systems, when provided, shall not be obstructed nor altered and shall be in accordance with California Building Code as required for amusement buildings.
- C. Provide a public address system in accordance with the California Building Code as required for amusement buildings.

Note: The flame test shall consist of putting a flame to a sample of the material by a match or lighter. The test shall be conducted outside the building on a specimen of the material approximately 3 inches wide by 10 inches long and oriented at a 45-degree angle. When testing, the flame shall be applied at the bottom edge of the material for a period of up to 12 seconds. If the material fails to ignite, or if it ignites and self extinguishes when the flame source is removed, the material shall be considered flame retardant.

Miscellaneous:

- Care and consideration shall be used with respect to smoke generator and smoke detector locations. Use of smoke generator may be restricted if determined to be incompatible with smoke detector(s).
- 'NO SMOKING' signs shall be provided at entrance and throughout exhibit.
- Storage and/or use of flammable or combustible liquids, gasses and solids are prohibited.
- Open flame is prohibited.
- Good housekeeping shall be maintained throughout exhibit and exit pathways.



Exits and Egress Paths:

1. All exit pathways through the amusement building that the public has access to shall be a minimum of 44" in width and shall have a clear height of not less than seven feet.
 2. All stairs used in the means of egress path used to change elevation shall have a minimum riser height of 4 inches, a maximum riser height of 8 inches, and shall be uniform in height within each flight of stairs.
 3. All ramps used in the means of egress path used to change elevation shall have a maximum slope of 1 unit vertical in 12 units horizontal (8.3% slope). Normal and emergency lighting shall be provided to continuously illuminate any ramp or stair with not less than one foot-candle of light at the walking surface.
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4. All exit doors shall not be provided with a latch or lock unless it is panic hardware.
 5. The maximum distance to the nearest exit from any portion of the public area of the building shall not be greater than 100 feet.
 6. The Fire Department shall approve the location of all exit signs and emergency exit path lighting. In addition to standard height exit signs conforming to Chapter 10 of the Building Code, additional low-level exit signs shall be provided on all exit doors and as necessary to indicate the path of exit travel. All exit signs shall be illuminated at all times and shall be provided with an emergency source of power that will provide continued illumination automatically upon loss of the normal power supply. Emergency exit path lighting shall also be installed so as to provide illumination of the exit path with light intensity of not less than one foot-candle (10.76 lx) at the walking surface in the event of normal power or lighting circuit failure.
 7. Each escort/advisor shall have in their possession a working flashlight at all times.

Fire Extinguishers:

Fire extinguishers with a minimum rating of 2A 10BC shall be provided so that the maximum distance to any fire extinguisher shall be not more than 75 feet.

Automatic Fire Sprinklers:

In temporary amusement structures of less than 1000 square feet of floor area and where the exit travel distance from any point is less than 50 feet, automatic fire sprinklers are not required. Where the floor area is 1000 square feet or more, or the distance from any point in the structure to the closest exit is 50 feet or more, automatic fire sprinklers approved by the Department of Building and Safety are required. The main water flow switch and the main shutoff valve shall both be electrically supervised. If the amusement building is temporary, the water supply may be of an approved temporary type.

Special Effects:

1. No open flame act or device of any kind will be allowed inside the amusement building or structure.
2. Smoke effects shall not obscure any exit sign from being readily identified nor shall it reduce the visibility of the exit path so that the path of travel to any exit cannot be discerned under emergency lighting conditions.
3. All special effects shall be subject to approval by the Fire Department and where restrictions or strict adherence to certain requirements are necessary for the safety of the public, a Special Permit shall be issued for the special effect indicating the restrictions and/or requirements.