TOPIC: Parking Garage Headroom Clearance - IBC/4/#5


REVISED: January 16, 2013 [Paul L. Scarlett], Director

REFERENCE: Structural Specialty Code, Chapter 4

SUBJECT: Parking garage headroom clearance

QUESTION: Are any projections allowed into the 7' - 0" headroom clearance required in the pedestrian and vehicular circulation areas in a parking garage?

RESPONSE: Wall mounted shelves, storage surfaces, cabinets, piping or ductwork located at the head of a parking space may encroach into the required 7' - 0" vertical headroom clearance required in a parking garage under the following conditions:

1. The shelving, storage surface, cabinet, piping or ductwork does not project more than 24" into a parking space.

2. The shelving, storage surface, cabinet, piping or ductwork has a minimum of 48" vertical clearance above the floor.

3. In buildings of Type I or Type II construction the shelving, storage surface, cabinet, piping or ductwork shall be of noncombustible material or shall be protected by automatic sprinklers as required by the Fire Marshal's Office.

4. No obstruction by shelving, storage surface, cabinet, piping or ductwork shall be permitted in spaces and aisles designated for van accessible parking.

5. No obstruction by shelving, storage surface, cabinet, piping or ductwork shall be permitted into pedestrian circulation areas or into vehicular drive lanes or maneuvering areas.
6. All piping or ductwork projecting into vehicle parking spaces shall be protected against damage by vehicle contact in a manner approved by the Bureau of Development Services.

Sketch - Overhead Obstructions at Parking Garage

IBC Section 406.2.2

Wall mounted shelves, storage surfaces, racks, cabinets, piping, or ductwork

Updates August 22, 2007 edition
Updates July 14, 2006 edition
New July 14, 2006