



**Code Information Sheet**

**REQUIREMENTS FOR WINDOW WELLS**

( NFPA 101 - 24.2.2 B )

**Secondary Means of Escape.** The secondary means of escape, other than existing approved means of escape, shall be one of the means specified.

It shall be an outside window or door operable from the inside without the use of tools, keys, or special effort and shall provide a clear opening of not less than **5.7 sq. ft.** The width shall be not less than **20 in.**, and the height shall be not less than **24 in.** The bottom of the opening shall be not more than **44 in.** above the floor. Such means of escape shall be acceptable where one of the following criteria are met:

**Windows having a sill height below the adjacent ground level shall be provided with a window well meeting the following criteria:**

The **window well** shall have horizontal dimensions that allow the window to be fully opened.

The window well shall have an accessible net clear opening of not less than **9 sq. ft.** with a length and width of not less than **36 in.**

A window well with a vertical depth of **more than 44 in.** shall be equipped with an approved permanently affixed ladder or with steps meeting the following criteria:

- i. The ladder or steps shall not encroach more than **6 in.** into the required dimensions of the window well.
- ii. The ladder or steps shall not be obstructed by the window.

Ladders or steps that comply with the requirements of 24.2.2.3(C)(4)(c) shall be exempt from the requirements of 7.2.2.

**1) Check Window Well Dimensions**

Is the clear horizontal distance, **A** at least 36 inches? Yes  No

Is the clear horizontal distance, **B** at least 36 inches? Yes  No

Is the clear horizontal distance, **C** with the window open at least 30 inches? Yes  No

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**2) Check Window Well Opening Area (fill in the three blanks)**

**A** \_\_\_\_\_ x **B** \_\_\_\_\_ = **Area** \_\_\_\_\_

Horizontal distance (inches)      Hor      istance (inches)      Net horizontal opening (square inches)

Is the clear openable area, **Area** at least 1,080 square inches? Yes  No

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**3) Check the distance from the floor to the bottom of opening**

Is the distance, **S** from the floor to the finished sill (bottom of opening) 44 inches or less? Yes  No