

## 2021 Indirect Waste Installation

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## **Purpose**

To provide clarity in the installation requirements for floor sinks and other indirect waste receptors as required in the 2021 Uniform Plumbing Code with Washington State amendments.

## **Floor Drains**

Floor drains are intended to collect accidental spills, overflows or water utilized for washing the floor surface. Floor drains are required to be equipped with an approved, type strainer having a waterway equivalent to the area of the tailpiece.



Floor Drain Strainer

Floor drain strainers are fixed in place to prevent displacement by objects or large amounts of water. The strainer is intended to prevent items from entering the drain, which might cause blockages.

UPC Section 704.3 requires that pot sinks, scullery sinks, dishwashing sinks, silverware sinks, commercial dishwashing machines, and other similar fixtures be directly connected to the drainage system and that a floor drain be provided adjacent to such fixtures.

The fixtures must be connected downstream of the floor drain, connected to the sewer side of the floor drain trap, and no other drainage line may connect between the floor drain and the adjacent fixtures it serves. Both the floor drain, and associated fixture must be vented as required elsewhere in the code.

## **Indirect Waste Receptors**

Indirect waste receptors are intended to receive indirect discharge from plumbing appliances such as condensate drains, pumps, and food preparation sinks. Floor sinks are typically used for such purposes. The UPC requires that when indirect waste receptors receive discharge-containing particles that would clog the drain, the receptor be equipped with a readily removable dome type strainer.



Floor Sink

Floor sinks must be equipped with a readily removable dome (beehive) type strainer. Since this strainer is not fixed in place it is often removed or out of place.

Floor sinks by design do not meet the requirement for a floor drain. The floor drain provides protection for the fixture drain of such sinks in the event of a blockage downstream of the drain. This serves as a visual indication of a stoppage and coupled with the type of strainer used in floor sinks demonstrates that the floor sink is not intended to act as a floor drain. To ensure that the floor sink is not improperly used it is necessary that it be elevated an adequate distance above the floor surface so that water on the floor cannot drain into the floor sink. Approximately 1/2" is deemed adequate to meet the elevation requirement.