

This Tip Sheet reflects code requirements of the 2015 International Residential Code (IRC) . Note that 5.7 sq. has been around since the mid-seventies and enforceable since June 30th 1982 when it was adopted by the State Fire Marshal Office.

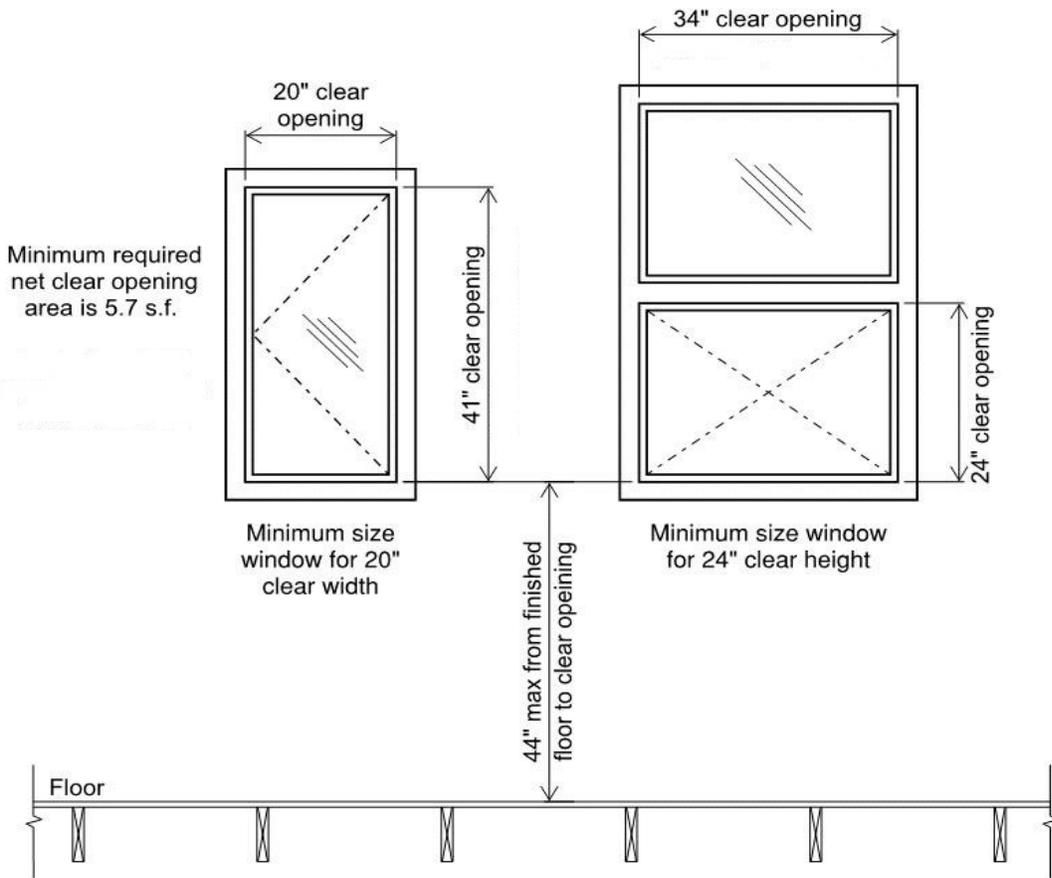
**R310 Emergency Escape and Rescue Opening Required.** Basements, habitable attics and every sleeping room shall have not less than one operable emergency escape and rescue opening. Where basements contain one or more sleeping rooms, an emergency escape and rescue opening shall be required in each sleeping room. Emergency escape and rescue openings shall open directly into a public way, or to a yard or court that opens to a public way.

**R310.2.1 Minimum Opening Area.** Emergency and escape rescue openings shall have a net clear opening of not less than 5.7 square feet (0.530 m ). The net clear opening dimensions required by this section shall be obtained by the normal operation of the emergency escape and rescue opening from the inside. The net clear height opening shall be not less than 24 inches (610 mm) and the net clear width shall be not less than 20 inches (508 mm).

Minimum Net  
 Clear Height must  
 be at least 24".

Minimum Net  
 Clear Width must  
 be at least 20".

Note: These are  
 the minimum  
 dimensions for  
 either height or  
 width, a window  
 20"x24" is not  
 5.7sf



**GENERAL INFORMATION:**

- The intent of this Tip Sheet is to provide a general understanding of the code requirements and does not address the subject in great detail.
- Additional information can be obtained from your local participating jurisdiction.