

**BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE
AIBC, APEGBC, BOABC, POABC**

INTERPRETATION

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| Interpretation Date: | June 20, 2001 | File No.: 98-0023 |
| Building Code Edition: | BC Building Code 1998 | |
| Subject: | Protection at urinals | |
| Keywords: | Urinals, wall protection | |
| Building Code Reference(s): | 7.4.3.1.(1), 3.7.4.6.(1) | Page 1 of 1 |

Question:

1. What are the clearances to a sidewall for a urinal?
2. Does a sidewall within 900 mm require impervious material?
3. How far around the corner would the impervious material extend?
4. What is the front clearance from a urinal to another obstruction?

Interpretation:

While it is not referenced in the 1998 BCBC, we recommend that the sidewall clearance should be 300 mm (12 inches) from the centre of the urinal to the wall or other obstruction. This would be consistent with previous Factories Act and agrees with the *fixture* manufactures who indicate 600 mm (24 inches) on centre.

Article 3.7.4.6. of the 1992 BCBC indicates impervious material is required from the edge of the urinal for 900 mm (36 inches) in all horizontal directions, which would include a sidewall within 900 mm. (36 inches)

The impervious material on the sidewall must extend to 900 mm (36 inches) in front of the projected outline of the urinal.

While they are not referenced in the 1998 BCBC, the *fixture* clearances indicated in the 1992 BC Plumbing Code sentence 4.3.6.(1)(2)(3) for the front of *fixture* is 450 mm (18 inches) which should be applicable to urinals also. These clearances are consistent with CMHC guidelines. In food preparation areas where sanitation could be compromised, the Health Act can offer some support.

NOTE: The dimensions herein do not apply to washrooms designed for use by persons with disabilities.



R.J. Light, Committee Chair

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