

## INFORMAL CODE INTERPRETATION

NC Department of Insurance  
Office of the State Fire Marshal - Engineering Division  
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### Tempered Glass for Windows 9 Square Feet or More

**Code:** 2012 Residential Code

**Date:** July 2, 2012

**Section:** R308.4

**Question:**

If a window is 9 square feet or more, does it have to be tempered?

**Answer:**

Section R308.4, Item 3: Glazing that meets **all** the following must be tempered or safety glazing which meets CPSC 16 CFR Part 1201:

- 3.1. Exposed area of a single pane greater than 9 square feet. (For example, this could be a single sash of a double hung window).
- 3.2. Bottom edge of the glass is lower than 18" above the floor.
- 3.3. Top edge of the glass is higher than 36" above the floor.
- 3.4. There is a floor or walking surface within 36" horizontally of the window.

If any one of these 4 is not met, then the window is not required to be tempered by condition #3.

**Keywords:**

Hazardous location