

PLUMBING AND MECHANICAL
INTERPRETATION MANUAL



CODE: 2003 IPC and IRC

DATE:

CODE REF: IPC-305.5 and IRC-P2603.5

3/23/2007

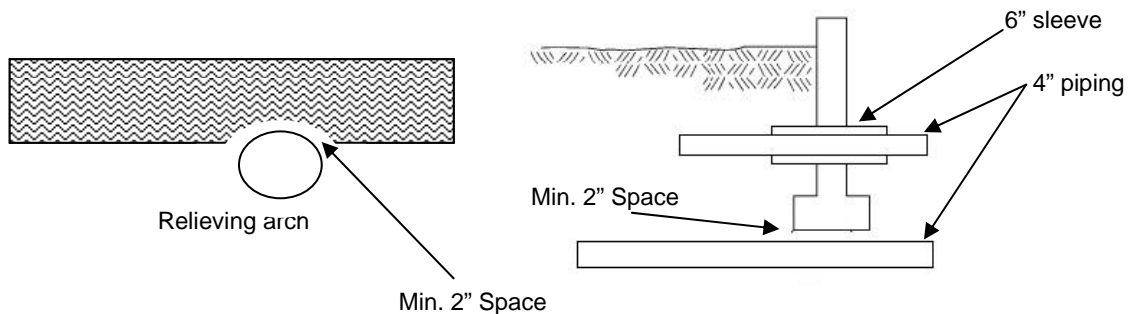
SUBJECT: Pipes through footings or foundation walls

Question: When is a sleeve or relieving arch required per IRC section P2603.5 or IPC section 305.5?

IPC-305.5 IRC- P2603.5 Pipes through footings or foundation walls.

Any pipe that passes under a footing or through a foundation wall shall be provided with a relieving arch; or there shall be built into the masonry wall a pipe sleeve two pipe sizes greater than the pipe passing through.

Answer: When piping is installed that is passing through the footing or foundation wall a sleeve would be required. However, the question is "when it passes under a footing or foundation wall" is it still required. The answer is no, if the piping is at least two (2) inches below the footing or foundation wall. If the required sleeve only needs to be two (2) inches larger than the piping this would only provide about ± 2 inches of clearance between the piping and the sleeve. If this ± 2 inches is sufficient to protect the piping through the wall or footing it should provide equivalent protection for piping passing under the footing. If the piping is passing under the bottom of the footing with less than two (2) inches then it would require a relieving arch (see Illustrations).



There is nothing in the code that specifies the type of material used to form the void around or above the pipe. Therefore, if the contractor used insulation or any other suitable product to form the sleeve the contractor will have met the intent of this code requirement.

In order to provide the contractors time to receive notification of this issue and plumbing inspectors are consistently enforcing this requirement in all district offices we will begin to issue yellow tags concerning this issue until May 1, 2007.

SIGNATURE: *Lonnie Erwin,*
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