



A portable ladder is how you get up. IMC 304.11 is what keeps you from walking off the edge once you are there. If service points or roof hatches sit within 10 ft of an edge with a drop over 30 in, provide guards 42 in high, blocking a 21-in sphere, extending 30 in past each end, and meeting IBC loads. A parapet that was never checked is not a guard.

Original Masterbuild PE packet from Daily Code Talk on 2024 IMC 304.10–304.12. Confirm the adopted edition. Distinct from 306.5 fixed access. This is not a guardrail design. Daily Code Talk does not publish an IBC load number here — so this packet does not either. Put “IBC loads” on the note and coordinate with structural.

- ☐ **304.11 roof / edge guards: trigger is service point or hatch within 10 ft of an edge, drop over 30 in. Guard: 42 in high, 21-in sphere.**
306.5 is the ladder and the receptacle. 304.11 is the edge. You can have a legal way up and still have no guard at the unit.
- ☐ **304.10 at grade: support on a level slab 3 in above adjacent grade, or suspend 6 in above grade. A unit sitting in the dirt is not 304.10.**
304.12: permanently mark appliances that serve areas beyond the room they sit in (unique ID + area served).
- ☐ **On the set: dimension 10 ft to the edge, show the 42-in guard extent 30 in past the equipment, note IBC loads, and annotate.**
Attachment is structural.

The fail we see first

An RTU 6 ft from a 4-ft drop, no guard, pad flush with the roof pavers. Or a condensing unit on grade in the soil. A 12-in curb is not a 42-in guard.

What to send: how far the service side or hatch sits from the roof edge, the drop height if you know it, and whether the grade unit is on a pad (and how high that pad sits above adjacent grade).

Send the comments. Not the County guideline.

Folio (does it start with 30?), process or UP number, and the comments PDF. Masterbuild will say which row is actually open.

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+1 (786) 398-6940 · Calendly: 30-minute scoping call

Masterbuild provides engineering services under a written scope. Not a guardrail design. Confirm adopted 304.11. This is not legal advice.