



NYC Buildings Department
280 Broadway, New York, NY 10007

Robert D. LiMandri, Acting Commissioner



BUILDINGS BULLETIN 2008-005

Code Interpretation

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Purpose: This document is to resolve the apparent conflict between the minimum trap sizes of Table PC 709.1 and the minimum drain outlet diameters of Sections PC 412.3, 417.3, and 418.2 with regard to floor drains, sinks and showers.

Related Code	PC 412.3	PC 413.2	PC 417.3
Section(s):	PC 418.2	PC 704.2	PC 709.1 (Table)

Subject(s): Plumbing, Traps

With regard to the minimum trap sizes for floor drains, sinks and showers, the values enumerated in Table PC 709.1 are less than the corresponding minimum drain outlet diameters as required by Sections PC 412.3, 413.2, 417.3, and 418.2. However Section PC 704.2 states that

“704.2 Change in size. The size of the drainage piping shall not be reduced in size in the direction of the flow. . . .”

As a result, the minimum trap sizes are not permitted to be less than their corresponding minimum drain outlet diameters as follows:

Fixture Type	Minimum drain outlet diameter from Chapter PC4	Minimum trap size from Table PC 709.1	Required minimum trap size per Section PC 704.2
Floor drains	3"	2"	3"
Kitchen sink, domestic	2"	1½"	2"
Kitchen sink, domestic with food waste grinder and/or dishwasher	2"	1½"	2"
Shower	2"	1½"	2"
Sink	2"	1½"	2"