

THE SOUTH CAROLINA BUILDING CODES FOR SIGNS

The South Carolina adoption of the building codes always includes modifications, that are always reviewed and approved by the Building Codes Council and passed by state legislation, to increase or decrease the specific requirements that are contained. This excerpt is taken **directly from the 2021 edition of the SC approved code book:**

About this appendix: [Appendix H](#) gathers in one place the various code standards that regulate the construction and protection of outdoor signs. Whenever possible, this appendix provides standards in performance language, thus allowing the widest possible application.

This appendix was adopted by the State of South Carolina for use in all jurisdictions, and as such, enforcement is mandatory state-wide.

Should you wish to view the appendix in its entirety, you can find a read-only version here: <https://codes.iccsafe.org/content/IBC2021P1/appendix-h-signs>.

Here are some key takeaways from the state-wide code requirements for signs.

The following signs are exempt from the requirements to obtain a permit before erection:

1. Painted nonilluminated signs.
2. Temporary signs announcing the sale or rent of property.
3. Signs erected by transportation authorities.
4. Projecting signs not exceeding 2.5 square feet (0.23 m²).
5. The changing of moveable parts of an approved sign that is designed for such changes, or the repainting or repositioning of display matter shall not be deemed an alteration.

SECTION H105: DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

H105.2 Permits, drawings and specifications.

Where a permit is required, as provided in [Chapter 1](#), construction documents shall be required. These documents shall show the dimensions, material and required details of construction, including loads, stresses and anchors.

H105.3 Wind load.

Signs shall be designed and constructed to withstand wind pressure as provided for in [Chapter 16](#). (Of the SC building code)

H105.5 Working stresses.

In outdoor advertising display signs, the allowable working stresses shall conform to the requirements of [Chapter 16](#). The working stresses of wire rope and its fastenings shall not exceed 25 percent of the ultimate strength of the rope or fasteners. (Of the SC building code)



South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation
South Carolina Building Codes Council
2021 Modification Index

Applicable Code: 2021 International Building Code

Modification Index Number: IBC 2021-18

Code Section: Appendix H Signs

Modification:

Appendix H Signs
The provisions in Appendix H are adopted for use statewide.

Appendix H gathers in one place the various code standards that regulate the construction and protection of outdoor signs. Whenever possible, this appendix provides standards in performance language, thus allowing the widest possible application.

Proponent: Structural Engineers Association of South Carolina

Previous Code Cycles	Previous Modification Index Number	Previous Code Section
IBC 2018	IBC 2018 14	Appendix H
IBC 2015	IBC 2015 07	Appendix H
IBC 2012	IBC 2012 05	Appendix H