

WATER SOFTENER INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS

The 2019 California Plumbing Code Section 611.0 and Health & Safety Code Sections 116775 through 116795 have the following requirements for water softener installations throughout the State of California:

- Water Softeners are only permitted in residential occupancies per H&SC §116785, and must discharge into the sanitary sewer system, with a minimum 1" airgap.
- Water Softeners shall comply with NSF 44, and be tested for flow rating and pressure loss by an approved laboratory or recognized testing agency.
- The Water Softening Appliance must utilize demand control to activate regeneration.
- The Water Softener shall be certified by an approved third party rating organization to have a salt efficiency rating of no less than 4,000 grains of hardness removed per pound of salt used in regeneration.
- The following water conservation devices must be installed on all fixtures using softened or conditioned water unless the devices will adversely restrict the normal operation of the fixtures:
 - Faucet flow restrictors
 - Shower head restrictors
 - Toilet reservoir dams or low flow toilets (maximum 1.6 gallon per flush)
 - Only untreated (un-softened or unconditioned) supply water is permitted to supply hose bibs and sill cocks that serve water to the outside of the house, except that bypass valves may be installed on homes with slab foundations constructed prior to the date of the water softener installation or otherwise where a piping system is physically inhibited.
- No water softener shall be installed when the installation produces an excessive pressure drop in the water supply piping.
- The Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD) may authorize water softener installations in non-residential occupancies. Contact DSRSD directly if requesting a waiver.
- The certification on page 2 shall be completed by a contractor having a valid Class C-55 water conditioning contractor's license or Class C-36 plumbing contractor's license attesting that all these requirements have been satisfied at the time of final inspection.
- Water Softeners shall be sized per CPC Table 611.4 of the California Plumbing Code

TABLE 611.4
SIZING OF RESIDENTIAL WATER SOFTENERS⁴

REQUIRED SIZE OF SOFTENER CONNECTION (inches)	NUMBER OF BATHROOM GROUPS SERVED ¹
3/4	up to 2 ²
1	up to 4 ³

For SI units: 1 inch = 25 mm

Notes:

- ¹ Installation of a kitchen sink and dishwasher, laundry tray, and automatic clothes washer permitted without additional size increase.
- ² An additional water closet and lavatory permitted.
- ³ Over four bathroom groups, the softener size shall be engineered for the specific installation.
- ⁴ See also Appendix A, Recommended Rules for Sizing the Water Supply System, and Appendix C, Alternate Plumbing Systems, for alternate methods of sizing water supply systems.



**Community Development Department
Building and Safety Division**

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**RESIDENTIAL WATER SOFTENER
INSTALLATION CERTIFICATE**

Permit Number _____

Date _____

This certification shall be provided at the time of final inspection by the new user of the appliance and shall be completed by a contractor having either a valid Class C-55 water conditioning contractor's license or Class C-36 plumbing contractor's license.

Name of homeowner _____

Address _____

Water Softener Manufacturer _____ Model number _____

Pounds of salt used per regeneration _____ Salt efficiency rating _____

Manufacturer of the required water-saving devices installed, model number, and number installed:

I, as the owner or representative of _____, _____,
(Contractor) (CA
License)

located at _____

do hereby declare under penalty of perjury that the water softener and required water-saving devices are installed at the address shown hereon per the current edition of the California Plumbing Code and in conformance with Sections 116775 through 116795 of the California Health and Safety Code.

(Signature)

(Name)