

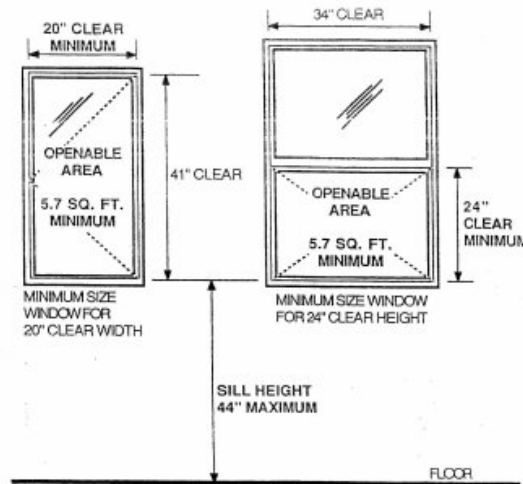
Hood River Building Department - Egress Windows - Quick How to Guide

Where do I need an egress window?

Basements and every sleeping room shall have at least 1 operable window or exterior door for rescue and safe egress out of your home. If your basement has more than 1 sleeping room, you are required to provide emergency egress and rescue openings for each bedroom (R310 ORSC).

What are the requirements for egress windows?

- **44"** maximum window sill height above floor
- **5.7sf** minimum net clear opening when window fully open
- **5sf** minimum net clear opening when window fully open (allowed at grade level only)
- **24"** Minimum vertical opening and **20"** minimum horizontal opening at window



NOTE: A 20" X 24" DOES NOT MEET THE 5.7sqft REQUIREMENT. If you choose a min dimension in direction, ensure the opposite direction is great enough to meet 5.7sqft.

Where can I find more information?

- State of Oregon Building Codes Division: Oregon Residential Specialty Code – Section R310 Emergency Escape and Rescue Openings will be most applicable:
<http://www.oregon.gov/bcd/pages/index.aspx>
- Contact Hood River Building Department at 541-387-5211

Examples of special appeal to building department for existing buildings:

- **12"** step minimum depth and **12"** maximum height as an optional solution where window as a 5.7sf opening, but sill higher than 44" above floor. Install permanent single step below window, matching width of window. Top of step to bottom of sill to be no more than 44"
- **9sf** minimum horizontal area for window wells, with a minimum horizontal projection and width of 3ft. The area of window well shall allow the emergency escape/rescue opening to be fully opened. If well greater than 44" see R310.2 for more details on ladders and steps out of well