



Setting the Standards for
Home Energy Efficiency

Interpretation: Door seals
Designation: IR 380-2025-011 Carried Forward and 380-2022-002 and 380-2019-009
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Reference:

Standard 380-2022
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Relating to: Door seals and enclosure airtightness testing

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Background Statement: *Provided by person requesting the interpretation.*

Section 4.3.2.4 requires that the door where a blower door is installed be inspected for the presence of a “door seal” installed to “minimize air leakage between the door and door frame”. For tests conducted in a dwelling unit where the door does not have a door seal or the seal is improperly installed, 140 CFM50 of leakage is added to the measured airflow.

It is ambiguous whether the door seal must be present on the bottom of the door to avoid the leakage penalty. It is also ambiguous what types of door bottom seals meet the requirement (e.g., door shoe, door sweep).



Door Shoe



Door Sweep

Some may consider the “door frame” to only encompass the sides and the top of the door. Others may consider it to encompass all four sides of the door, particularly given the stated intent of minimizing air leakage around the door.

Proposed Interpretation: *Provided by person requesting the interpretation.*

The term “door frame” is intended to encompass all four sides of the door. To meet the stated intent to minimize air leakage around the door, the door seal must be present on the bottom of the door (as well as the top and the sides) to avoid the air leakage penalty of 140 CFM50. The door seal at the bottom can include door shoes as well as brush-based door sweeps.

Future editions of the standard could be refined to better convey this current intent.

SDC Response:

Is the proposed interpretation correct? Yes No

SDC Comments: