

Guide for Design Criteria

Definitions

“**Light colored**” means any surface color with a minimum LRV of seventy (70) percent or more as indicated by standard paint color charts.

“**Vestibule**” means a passage, hall, or room between the outer door and the interior of a building. An area that offers access to another area.

Light Reflective Value

All colors reflect a certain amount of light and the balance is absorbed by the color. Paint colors are measured in **Light Reflective Values (LRV)**. A paint’s LRV is the value given a specific color and represents the amount of light reflected by that specific paint color once applied to a smooth flat surface. Paint centers/suppliers can supply an LRV chart.

Facility - Construction & Installation

Color of Walls and Ceilings [section 807.710.2]

All walls and ceilings in the following areas need to meet a light reflective value (LRV) of 70% or greater (see definition above):

- Food preparation/food service area (i.e., kitchen, bars and waitress stations, front serving counter areas or any other area where food is prepared or served).
- Toilet rooms
- Vestibules (see definition above)
- Equipment washing & utensil washing areas

Please Note: If wall coverings are used they must meet the light colored requirement and in ALL instances noted above must also meet the requirement of smooth, non-absorbent, and easily cleanable. That restricts textured wall coverings in the above listed areas.

Suspended Ceilings

All ceilings in the following areas:

- Food preparation/food service area (i.e., kitchen, bars and waitress stations, front serving counter areas or any other area where food is prepared or served).
- Toilet rooms
- Vestibules (see definition above)
- Equipment washing & utensil washing areas,

need to be smooth, light colored (see above definition), easily cleanable (non-perforated), and non-absorbent.

Floors [section 807.700.1]

The floors and floor coverings of all food preparation, food storage, all walk-in refrigerators, dressing rooms, locker rooms, and toilet rooms and vestibules (i.e., stained concrete, etc.) shall be constructed and maintained so as to eliminate all seams, cracks/cracking, or other openings that permit the entry or passage of moisture (i.e., sealed [section 807.012.23]).

Utility Lines

ALL utility lines (i.e., electrical, plumbing (supply and drain), fire suppression systems, etc.), shall be constructed of smooth materials (no flexible corrugated lines) and raised from the mounting surface (i.e., floor, wall, ceiling, etc.) a minimum of one (1) inch to make easily cleanable. All other installations are prohibited [section 807.700.7].

Coved Base Trim

Junctures between wall and floors shall be coved, and sealed. If the coved base is the same material as the floor (i.e., quarry tile) and the base has a coved bottom edge, there is no color requirement because it is considered part of the floor – hence [section 807.700.1] takes presence. However, if the cove is cut off of the base trim (as can be done with quarry tile floors if the base is too tall) or vinyl or other similar material is used, then the coved base is no longer considered part of the floor but rather the base of the wall and must meet the 70% or greater LRV [section 807.710.2].

Exposed Construction

Exposed construction (i.e., studs, joist, heat and A/C ductwork, and rafters) shall not be exposed in food preparation areas/food handling/serving areas, toilet rooms and vestibules. If exposed in other rooms or areas, they shall be finished to provide an easily cleanable surface. [section 807.710.3]

Toilet Rooms [section 807.630.3]

Shall have tight-fitting, self-closing, solid doors.

Equipment - Construction & Installation

ALL Equipment and materials are to be commercial grade. NO residential equipment or materials will be approved.

Refrigeration [807.510.1.a]

All refrigeration to be commercial grade, easily movable or 4" above the floor.

Tables and Shelving

Tables and shelving are defined as Equipment [section 807.012.8]. Tables and shelving used in food preparation/food service areas are regulated as food contact surfaces [section 807.012.10] and shall be easily cleanable, smooth, free of breaks, open seams, cracks, chips, pits, and similar imperfections, and free of difficult-to-clean internal corners and crevices [section 807.510.1.b]. This restricts the use of plastic laminates for all tables and shelving used in these areas.

Policy: Plastic Laminate in a food preparation or food service/handling area is not allowed because 95% are constructed using residential design (i.e., the design permits a high degree of susceptibility to delamination and edge damage due to extensive seaming of 90 degree internal joints, corners and edge-banding). Saint Louis County is not able to monitor all design and construction to ensure uniform commercial/institutional fabrication of the material (i.e., industrial/commercial fabrication involving high pressure machine fabrication with rolled and radiused corners and edges that eliminates seamed joints and assures correct adhesion for high temperature applications).

Table Mounted Equipment [807.530.2.a]

Equipment that is placed on tables or counters, unless portable, shall be sealed to the table or counter or elevated on legs at least 4 inches high and shall be installed to facilitate the cleaning of the equipment and adjacent areas.

Floor Mounted Equipment [807.530.3.a]

Floor-mounted equipment, unless readily movable, shall, be sealed to the floor, or installed on raised platforms of sealed, smooth concrete or other smooth masonry or elevated on legs at least 6 inches off the floor.

Mop Sinks [807.720.2]

At least one mop sink with a floor drain shall be provided.

Light Shields [807.720.3]

Light shields or shatter-proof bulbs shall be provided for all artificial lights in fixtures located over, by or with in food storage, preparation, service, and display facilities, and facilities where utensils and equipment are cleaned and stored. Infrared or other heat lamps shall be shielded by a shield surrounding and extending beyond the bulk, leaving only the face of the bulb exposed.