

What is a Code Footprint:

New construction in the state of Kansas, including building additions and changes, must be under the direct supervision of a Kansas licensed design professional, whether an architect or engineer. The work shall be designed and constructed to the criteria established by Kansas regulation. Furthermore, the plans shall be reviewed for code compliance, or a building permit shall be obtained from a local building official and/or fire authority with building inspections taking place during construction and a certificate of occupancy issued prior to formal use. In some local jurisdictions, both will take place.

Kansas architects, engineers, building code officials, and fire officials shoulder the responsibility for providing a third-party objective evaluation of the fire safety features of newly constructed buildings. Resources may not be readily available to verify new construction is designed and built to meet the intent of the Kansas Fire Prevention Code. The major participants of the fire protection team are the building owners and operators, the local inspection authorities, the Office of the State Fire Marshal, and the Kansas licensed design professionals. These major participants must work together to facilitate the efficient use of resources. Fire protection and life safety features must be included in the original design concept and not retrofitted at a later stage. The Office of the State Fire Marshal is leading the effort to capitalize on the effectiveness of plan review to ensure a higher degree of quality in new construction. Architects generate building designs to protect occupant safety and wellbeing, but much of the code criteria used to design and construct the building is not formally recorded. Coherent code inspections of plan submittals are therefore nearly impossible.

To make such a review of specific code criteria possible, a format called a “code footprint” has been developed over the years. The code footprint provides a snapshot of the key code information shown within a small-scale building plan. The code footprint reduces redundancy and increases the coordination between all participants involved with new/existing construction. A sample code footprint is included in this guide.

**ATTENTION
KANSAS LICENSED ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS
PLEASE DO NOT SUBMIT
COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS
TO THE
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL FOR REVIEW
Kansas State Fire Marshal – Fire Prevention Division
prevention@ks.gov**