

## Jurisdiction Survey on Colorado Plumbing Code

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**Question 1:** Are you aware of the new requirement under the Colorado Plumbing Code that was added when the State adopted the 2018 IPC, IRC, and IFGC, and has remained in the current 2021 package - that requires plastic vent pipes for new water heaters to be tested with either 5 psi air or 10' head of water before doing final hookup to the appliance and getting final inspection?

### Responses:

1. No
2. Yes
3. yes
4. Was not aware but am now.
5. yes, enforcing that currently and doing other plastic vent pipe inspections the same way.
6. I was not aware. But we've already been requiring PVC flues to be tested if run thru construction. If it's just straight out a wall with no buried fittings then the test is waived.
7. Nope
8. no
9. no, but has been our policy anyway
10. Yes
11. Yes
12. Yes
13. No, but I always had PVC venting of appliances tested.
14. No
15. Not aware
16. No
17. We are aware of these requirements. Please note the state fuel gas code require plastic exhaust vents for gas-fired water heaters be tested with "5 psi maximum air pressure." That means any amount of pressure less than or equal to 5 psi, including 0 psi, complies with this rule.
18. Not aware. Sounds like a contractor requirement
19. No
20. I had forgotten about this requirement and therefore had left the responsibility to the contractor to test themselves.
21. yes
22. We were not aware of this requirement until just recently when a plumbing contractor asked if we were enforcing this. We are now putting into place process to do this with both new builds and water heater changeout permits
23. yes

**Question 2:** If you know about this and are enforcing it, how do you do this new rough inspection? Do you require contractors to be on site with air or water test in place and then do final hookup while the inspector waits? - for water heater change out permits.

### Responses:

1. No

2. Not if we can see what we can see
3. yes
4. Not aware
5. Either at rough or final inspections contractor on site for finals, pressure test, then glue and stick
6. We will see the connection at the final inspection on a new home. We are not getting permits for water heater change outs.
7. No
8. not aware
9. air test, with or without attendance recommend attendance
10. Not requiring to witness the test.
11. Yes contractors must be on site to perform flue tests
12. It has not been enforced.
13. Same as boilers - contractor on site for rough in tests, call for final when complete
14. I wouldn't require them to be on site for pressure test or head test but may require a final depending on the workmanship.
15. Not aware
16. not aware
17. We inform applicants of the state's requirement.
18. Not a requirement under our adopted statutes
19. We do not require this inspection
20. If we enforced, it would only be for new buildings - I don't believe it is practical to have to leave a homeowner without hot water because they are waiting on an inspector and we don't have capacity to accommodate specific inspection arrival requests to see this completed.
21. yes, and contractor has to be at site for all inspections.
22. We are just now setting up process and will require contractor to be on site with test in place and then wait for them to do final connections - not sure how the that will work yet for timing needed to wait around
23. our code just went into effect,

**Question 3:** On new house builds, do you also require the final pipe connections to also be tested in some fashion?

**Responses:**

1. No
2. no
3. live test
4. No. but This is a good idea as long as some fashion can be worked out.
5. Yes.
6. No, the exposed connection within the mechanical space is a visual inspection.
7. No
8. not aware
9. no local utility takes over
10. No, this creates an endless testing loop.
11. Yes
12. No, as we consider them connectors.
13. not possible with air pressure or water volume - must be operational at final
14. It would depend on the quality of work.
15. Not for ventilation pipes or combustion air.

16. No
17. We inform applicants of the state's requirement.
18. Not a requirement under our adopted statutes
19. No
20. It is not required at this time. If it were it would likely have to be an inspection separate from rough or final since the water heater is never installed for the rough inspection and it is supposed to be working by final inspection.
21. yes
22. We are just setting up new process but will probably not do testing on final connection pieces  
- we checked with the State, and they also do not do testing on the final connections.
23. no