| Typical Home Elements | Preferred | Acceptable | Unacceptable | Specifications | Source | Notes for Model |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Roofs** | Class A fire-rated with noncombustible and corrosion-resistant metal drip edge to protect sheathing and fascia, 10-foot clearance from tree branches | Class A fire-rated "by assembly" (Class B or Class C with additional fire resistance material, typically underlayment), 5-foot clearance from trees | wood shake or shingle, gaps between roof and roof deck, vegetative debris accumulation | Class A fire-rated roofing materials: asphalt, fiberglass composition, shingles, clay and cementitious, tiles (both flat and barrel shaped), and some metal roofing materials.<br><br>Class C fire-rated roofing materials: recycled plastic, rubber, aluminum | 1b, 6 | Most popular Class A roof material: asphalt shingle |
| **Vents (foundation, gable, dormer, eave, roof, soffit)** | Fire + Ember resistant metal mesh with 1/16-inch aperture + with baffle or matrix covering + intumescent coating OR for attic space: conditioned, no vents needed | Noncombustible corrosion-resistant metal mesh screen with 1/8-inch aperture | Uncovered or 1/4-inch aperture or larger mesh cover | | 1b | See photos of fire and ember-resistant vents |
| **Zone 0 (0 - 5 feet)** | All non-combustible materials | 5-foot perimeter of hardscaping around structures. Replace flammable fences and furniture within 5-feet of the exterior home walls with those made of ignition-resistant materials. No vegetation. | Combustible fence adjoining the exterior wall of the house, firewood, combustible accessory structures, attached or adjacent plantings, tree overhang, organic mulch, combustible furniture or accents | Non-combustible ground material: dirt, stone, concrete or gravel<br><br>Ignition-resistant fence: vinyl, heavy treated timber<br><br>Non-combustible fence and furniture: metal or masonry | 4b | Common adjacent plantings: climbing vines, window boxes<br><br>Common accessory structures: wooden decks and balconies, gazebo, dog house, storage shed, trash can corral/enclosure<br><br>Common combustible furniture or accents: wooden trellis/lattice, benches made of wood, wicker, vinyl or organic fiber doormats |
| **Zone 1 (5 - 30 feet)** *Lean, Green and Clean* | "Islands" of vegetation using hardscaped driveways and walkways/paths, not connected by combustible mulch, devoid of vegetative debris and dead material | Fire-resistant plantings/Ground Cover, low-growing and well-maintained vegetation, Tree canopies no closer than 10-feet to the home with lower branches removed and crowns 18-feet apart | Dense and Highly flammable vegetation, combustible sheds or other outbuildings such as gazebos, pergola, chicken coop, playground equipment, RV's, boats, ADU | | 1b, 1c, 13 | List of Highly Flammable Vegetation and List of minimally flammable Vegetation (See 8c, 9) |
| **Zone 2 (30 - 100 feet)** *Reduced Fuels* | Remove ladder fuels, create Zone 0 around sheds and propane tanks | Separate trees and shrubs, grasses cut to 4-inches, remove dead vegetation regularly, Trees with lower branches removed and crowns 12-feet apart, OK for shed, other outbuilding or propane tank | Dense, dry vegetation with ladder fuels, tightly packed trees, vegetative debris | Ladder fuels: shrubs, lower branches, smaller trees | 1b, 8, 13 | |
| **Landscaping** | Use only fire-wise plantings, create fuel breaks with hardscape pathways, observing slope and spacing needs, remove shrubs and grasses beneath trees, well-irrigated if appropriate | Hedges no higher than 8-feet with minimum 5-feet walkway around structures, ground cover no higher than 18", Trees 5-feet from structure and install long water hoses | Continuous hedgerows that lead directly to structures | | 8, 7 (p22) | See 'IBHS Wildfire Prepared Home Design Contest Winners' for ideas (3c) |
| **Exterior Doors - Entry and Garage** | Fire rated for 60-minutes plus, galvanized steel (pref) or aluminum with intumescent seal, battery backup for garage door | Fire-rated with weatherstripping to close gaps larger than 1/8-inch and fire resistant framing | rotted doors, gaps greater than 1/8-inch, wood screens | | 3a | |

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| **Siding** | Non-combustible siding in addition to a 1 hour wall design | Non-combustible siding OR replace 6-12 inches of combustible siding material at the bottom of exterior walls and roof to wall transitions with non-combustible material/flashing | Combustible materials | Non-combustible siding: Metal, Stucco, Brick, Fiber Cement, Concrete, or stone veneer<br><br>Combustible siding material: solid wood, wood composite materials and plastic/vinyl products | 1b, 5 | There will be questions about coatings - these are generally not recommended due to effectiveness and degredation over time. |
| **Eves** | Enclose underside in a soffit with non-combustible materials and Fire Sprinkler protected | Enclose underside in a soffit with 1-hour fire rated material, gaps caulked | Open eve attic vents | Fire-resistant: vinyl, specially treated lumber<br><br>Non-combustible: metal or cement board | 1b, 7 | |
| **Windows** | Metal framed, screened, multiple panes with tempered glass, functional shutters, limit size and # of windows that face large areas of vegetation or homes in close proximity, enclose space underneath bay windows, Fire Sprinkler Protected | Multiple panes with fine mesh screen and weatherstripping | Single paned window, poorly maintained framing and lack of an air-tight seal | Multiple panes: most exterior pane made of tempered glass | 3a, 6 | "Glass" in model could have layers exposed to demonstrate specs |
| **Decks** | Noncombustible deck assembly (including joists, railings, posts, and walking surface) or composed of fire-resistant material with steel joists and if low to the ground, enclose the underside with non-combustible material (corrugated metal) or fine | If combustible, replace walking surface boards with a noncombustible option for the first 1-foot away from the residence, install 6-inch metal flashing applied vertically on the exterior wall and at deck-to-wall intersections, remove | Composed of combustible material (Wood) and within Zone 0 or Zone 1, items stored underneath | Fire-resistant deck surface: Heavy timber or ignition-resistant material<br><br>Ember and Fire-resistant enclosure: 1/8-inch aperture metal mesh | 1b, 3e, 6 | composite decking flammability varies but generally, more dense composite boards are more flame-resistant |
| **Fences** | Within 10-feet of home, composed solely of non-combustible material and reflects heat: Concrete block (pref), metal | Non-combustible material within 8-feet of home, especially where fence or gate attaches to house | Composed of combustible material (Wood, foliage, Vinyl) within 5 feet of house or used as a lattice/trellis for plants | | 1b. 1c | Typical retrofit will have a wood or vinyl fence transition to metal (closed style like slats preferred over open style akin to chainlink or bars) as it approaches the exterior wall of the house. |
| **Driveway** | All non-combustible material (e.g. no turf or other ground cover strips), minimum of 10-feet of vegetation clearance on either side of driveways and access roads, trees trimmed to maintain 16-feet of vertical clearance | Overhead branches trimmed, gates open inward and are wide enough for emergency vehicles, address is clearly visible from road | Inoperable vehicles, refuse, overgrown vegetation, dilapidated carport, obscured street address | | 8 | |
| **Gutters** | Made of non-combustible material with metal screen to reduce maintenance needs, If kept free of leaves on screen | Clean | Unmaintained gutter with dry leaves and other combustable material | Non-combustible material: metal/aluminum | 1b | |

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| **Chimneys and Chimineas** | Spark arrestor + metal flashing at roof-chimney interface | Cover chimney and stovepipe outlets with a noncombustible corrosion-resistant metal mesh screen (spark arrestor), 10-foot clearance from trees | Open Fireplace Chimney | with 3/8-inch to 1/2-inch openings | 1 | |
| **Skylights** | Upgrade openable skylights with multipaned glazing with one layer of tempered glass | Flat Glass with 1/8-inch aperture mesh screen if ventilating or "roof window" style | Plastic dome | | 1b | |
| **Roof-Mounted PhotoVoltaic Systems (Solar Panels)** | Class A-rated PV system mounted on Class A-rated, steep-angled roof with a gap of ~1-foot between the PV system and the roof relative to shallow-angled roofs, flashing to block the opening to this gap | Class C-rated PV system mounted on a low slope Class A-rated roof with flashing to block the opening to the gap | 1/2-inch or more gap between PV system and roof with no flashing, gaps in roofing where attached, debris accumulation around panels | | 12 | |
| **Upgrade Options** | | | | | | |
| **Roof, Eaves and Wall Sprinklers** | | | | | | |
| **Pool Fire Fighting Pump and Equipment with Street signage/** | 2 Inch compatible Fire Hose & Nozzle | | | Minimum Gallons Per Minute | | |
| **Intumescent strips for vents and doors** | | | | | | |