INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE

CHAPTER 2 DEFINITIONS

SECTION R202 2009 Edition IRC INTERPRETATION 23-12 Issued 8-31-2012

RE_09_23_12

ACCESSORY STRUCTURE. A structure not greater than 3,000 square feet (279 m2) in floor area, and not over two stories in height, the use of which is customarily accessory to and incidental to that of the dwelling(s) and which is located on the same lot.

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Q: Is the floor area limitation of 3,000 square feet the combined floor area of all stories above grade plane plus any basement floor area?

A: Yes. The floor area limitation is for the structure, not for each floor. The total floor area of the structure, including the basement, is limited to 3000 square feet.