

BURIAL DEPTHS - SEWER

2016 CALIFORNIA PLUMBING CODE

SECTIONS 701.1.3, 718.3, 720.1

The following are general requirements for sewer burial depths based on the 2016 CA Plumbing Code. This handout is intended to provide only general information, for further information contact the Building & Safety Division.

718.3 No building sewer or other drainage piping or part therefore, which is constructed of materials other than those approved for use under or within a building, shall be installed under or within two (2) feet (610mm) of a building or structure, or part thereof, nor less than one (1) foot (305mm) below the surface of the ground. The provisions of this sub-section include structures such as porches and steps, whether covered or uncovered; breezeways, roofed porte cocheres; roofed patios; carports; covered walks; covered driveways; and similar structures or appurtenances.

720.1 Building sewers or drainage piping of clay or material that are not approved for use within a building shall not be run or laid in the same trench as the water pipes unless both of the following requirements are met:

- (1) The bottom of the water pipe, at points, shall be not less than twelve (12) inches (305mm) above the top of the sewer or drain line
- (2) The water pipe shall be placed on a solid shelf excavated at one (1) side of the common trench with a clear horizontal distance of not less than twelve (12) inches (305mm) from the sewer or drain line.
- (3) Water pipes crossing sewer or drainage piping constructed of clay or materials that are not approved to use within a building shall be laid not less than 12 inches (305mm) above the sewer drain.

