

Commercial Sink – Definition

Question:

What is the definition of a “commercial sink” as denoted in Table 7-3 of the 2006 UPC?

Answer:

Any sink in a kitchen that is used for other than domestic purposes would, by default, be defined as a “commercial” sink. Any kitchen in which food is prepared for SALE would further define a commercial kitchen.

Webster’s Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary defines “kitchen” as “a place with *cooking* facilities. Therefore, a sink in a limited use facility with NO cooking facilities (e.g., a break room) would not qualify as a “kitchen” per se, therefore a sink in this location would qualify as a domestic fixture, similar to that in a hotel room or lodging room, or any comparable non-cooking utilization.

The distinction between domestic and commercial sinks relates to BOTH location [within a true kitchen] and application [food preparation for SALE, as opposed to food preparation for personal use].

In summary, any sink [other than a “culinary” (food preparation) sink] located in a kitchen that is equipped with cooking facilities, and where food is being prepared for sale, would qualify as a commercial sink (as listed in Table 7-3 of the 2006 Uniform Plumbing Code), and must comply with all applicable Code requirements.

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