

## **Fire Safety Standards for Massage Establishment**

### **Restrictions**

1. Massage establishments shall not be located : -
  - 1.1 in level 3 of basement or below;
  - 1.2 in any industrial building.

### **Fire Services Requirements**

2. In general, the following Fire Services Requirements will be required for a massage establishment : -

#### **Premises**

- 2.1 All false ceilings, partitions or wall furnishings shall be made of fire resisting materials or treated with fire retardant paint/solution. The detailed specifications are stipulated in Appendix I (item 1).
- 2.2 All draperies & curtains, if provided, shall be treated with fire retardant solution. The detailed specifications are stipulated in Appendix I (item 2).

- 2.3 If the original windows provided for the premises in accordance with the approved building plans are sealed up by more than 50% by masonry, woodwork, or sheet metal, then a smoke extraction system shall be required, details of which are specified in item 10 of Appendix I.
- 2.4 All exits in the premises shall be indicated by illuminated signs bearing the word and characters “EXIT 出口” in block letters and characters of not less than 125mm high with 15mm wide strokes. Details of the colour of the letters/characters and contrasting colour on the background are stipulated in Appendix I (item 3).
- 2.5 Adequate directional sign(s) shall be provided at those locations of the premises where exit signs are not readily visible. The detailed specifications of the directional sign(s) are stipulated in Appendix I (item 4).
- 2.6 Low level directional signs capable of indicating exit direction in darkness shall be provided at 200mm above the floor level. The detailed specifications of such sign(s) are stipulated in Appendix I (item 5).
- 2.7 A schematic exit plan showing the floor layout and the directions of egress to escape staircases should be displayed at each cubicle. The detailed specifications of the exit plan are stipulated in Appendix I (item 6).
- 2.8 Emergency lighting shall be provided to the entire premises. Detailed specifications are stipulated in Appendix II.

### **Fire Service Installations and Equipment**

- 2.9 All fire service installations (FSI) and equipment provided for the premises shall be maintained in efficient working order at all times.
- 2.10 Unless already installed as part of the building’s fire service installations, FSI at the following scales shall be provided : -
  - 2.10.1 A fire hydrant/hose reel system. The detailed specifications are stipulated in Appendix I (item 7).

- 2.10.2 A manual fire alarm system with operating switches provided at each of the following locations : -
- (a) near each exit,
  - (b) at the main entrance,
  - (c) at the cashier's counter,
  - (d) at the reception area, and
  - (e) at the waiting area.

The detailed specifications are stipulated in Appendix I (item 7)

- 2.10.3 Alarm bells of the fire alarm system(s) shall be provided at bathrooms, saunas and individual massage or resting cubicles.

- 2.10.4 An automatic fire alarm system if the premises occupy an area exceeding 126 square metres. The detailed specifications of the system are stipulated in Appendix I (item 8).

- 2.10.5 A sprinkler system if the premises : -
- (a) are located in a curtain-walled building or a basement floor and occupy an area exceeding 126 square metres, or
  - (b) are located in other types of building and occupy an area exceeding 230 square metres.

The detailed specifications of the sprinkler system are stipulated in Appendix I (item 9).

- 2.10.6 A dedicated smoke extraction system if the premises are located in a curtain-walled building or a basement floor with a cubic volume exceeding 7000 cubic metres. Specifications are stipulated in Appendix I (item 10).

### **Ventilation System**

3. All ventilation system installed in the premises shall comply with the statutory requirements. Specifications are in Appendix I (items 11 and 12).

### **Additional Requirements**

4. The above are general requirements stipulated for the fire safety of the premises. Additional fire safety requirements may be imposed if the premises under application requires additional protection.
  - 4.1 If PU Foam filled mattress and upholstered furniture are used within the premises, they shall meet the flammability standard as specified in British standard BS 7177:1996 and BS 7176:1995 respectively for use in medium hazard Premises, building or standard acceptable to the Director of Fire Services.

**Appendix I**

**Fire Safety Standards for  
Massage Establishments**

**Detailed Specifications**

1. All combustible materials used for false ceiling, partition or wall furnishings shall meet Class 1 and 2 Rate of Surface Spread of Flame, British Standard 476 : Part 7, or be brought up to that standard by treating with approved fire retardant paint/solution on all exposed parts and certified by a registered Class II Fire Services Installation (FSI) Contractor.
2. All draperies & curtains, if installed, shall be made of materials containing fire resistant fabric and conform to British Standard 5867 : Part 2 fabric type B when tested in accordance with British Standard 5438, or be brought up to that standard by treating with approved fire retardant solution and certified by a registered Class II FSI Contractor.
3. The colour of the letters/characters and contrasting colour on the background of the exist signs shall comply with any one of the following and shall be consistent throughout the entire premises : -

<u>Letter Colour</u>	<u>Background Colour</u>
Green	White
White	Green

4. Directional sign(s) conforming to British Standard 5499 : Part 1 shall be provided to assist the customers to locate the exists in the event of emergency.
5. Low level directional signs shall be of self luminous types and conform to British Standard 5499 : Part 2 or, alternatively, shall be of photo-luminous types and conform to DIN 67510 Part 4 or equivalent and be illuminated by a secondary source of lighting of not less than 10 lux at all times.

6. The exit plan shall be no less than 250mm x 250mm in size and made of material not easily defaced or damaged. They shall be fixed on a prominent part of a wall immediately adjacent to the exit door of each cubicle and at a height of 1500mm above the floor level.
7. The fire hydrant/hose reel system and manual fire alarm system shall be installed in accordance with the specifications as stipulated in the Code of Practice for Minimum Fire Service Installations and Equipment.
8. An automatic fire alarm system shall be installed in accordance with the Fire Offices' Committee Rules to cover the entire premises except in bathrooms and saunas, unless the premises has already been protected by a sprinkler system. This fire alarm system shall be connected to the Fire Services Communication Centre of the Fire Services Department by a direct telephone line.
9. A sprinkler system shall be installed in accordance with the Rules of the Loss Prevention Council. The sprinkler heads of the sprinkler system shall be of fast response type and each spaced to protect an area of 9 square metres if the premises is located in a curtain-walled building or a basement floor and occupies an area exceeding 230 square metres.
10. If the requirements for windows as stipulated in item 2.3 of the Fire Safety Standards cannot be met, or if the premises is located in a curtain-walled building or a basement floor with a cubic volume exceeding 7000 cubic metres, a smoke extraction system shall be provided in accordance with the Code of Practice for Minimum Fire Services Installations and Equipment and the design of which shall be approved by the Director of Fire Services.
11. The ventilation system installed in the premises shall comply with the Building (Ventilating System) Regulations, Chapter 123, Laws of Hong Kong and the fire safety requirements for mechanical ventilating systems as stipulated in the Fire Services Department Circular Letter 1996, an extraction of which is at Appendix III.

12. Automatic cut-off devices shall be provided for mechanical ventilation systems to limit the spread of smoke through the ventilation system, where one is provided.
13. Drawings of the Ventilation System shall be submitted to the Ventilation Division of the Fire Services Department well before the commencement of the installation works. Furthermore, upon completion of the installation works, the Ventilation Division should also be notified in writing to check for compliance.
14. All fire service installations (FSI) and equipment provided for the building shall be retained and maintenance in efficient working order. Where alterations and additions are required, such work shall be carried out by a registered FSI Contractor and a certificate issued to the owner with copy forwarded to the Director of Fire Services within 14 days for substantiating compliance.



7. The emergency lighting system shall be wired in M.I.C.C. in accordance with B.S. 6207/P.V.C. in conduit in accordance with B.S.5266.
8. Once every month a discharge test shall be carried out and the results entered in a register.
9. The emergency lighting system shall be installed and certified by a Registered FSI Contractor.