

Los Angeles City Fire Department

SEC. 57.22.04. CHRISTMAS TREES AND DECORATIONS.

(Amended by Ord. No. 170,060, Eff. 11/14/94.)

A. In buildings, tents, premises, or portions thereof, to which the public is admitted or invited, Christmas trees and decorations shall comply with the provisions of this subsection.

1. **Christmas Trees** – The base of cut natural trees shall be kept in water or wet sand.
2. **Flame-retardant** – Cut natural trees shall be flame-retardant treated in accordance with Title 19, C.C.R., and a State Fire Marshal Certificate of Flame Resistance Tag shall be attached near the base.
3. **Decoration** – All decorations used on Christmas trees shall be non-combustible or flame-retardant and shall meet the requirements of Title 19, C.C.R. No open flame device shall be used. All electrical equipment shall be of the approved type.
4. **Field Test for Fire Resistance** – The Chief may, at any time, take samples from any Standard No. 66. The field test shall be performed in a safe location, using a common flame applied for 12 seconds of exposure to the sample. During the exposure, flaming shall not spread over the complete length of the sample, or in excess of four inches from the bottom of the sample for large sample sizes. After flame shall not be more than two seconds. Materials which break and drip flaming particles shall be considered hazardous. Christmas trees or any decorations determined by the Chief to be a fire hazard shall be immediately removed from the building.
5. **Location** – Christmas trees shall be located clear of exits and aisles and in an area separated from ordinary combustibles by a distance not less than the height of the tree.
6. **Stability** – Christmas trees shall be secure and stable in their position.
7. **Fire Protection** – An approved fire extinguisher in accordance with Division 140 of this article should be available.
8. **Permit** – A Special Permit shall be required for any storage, display, sale, or other use of Christmas trees within buildings where more than 10 trees are located.
9. **Artificial Trees** – Manufacturing trees which are constructed of metallic, non-combustible or fire-resistive materials may be used. Artificial and live Christmas trees are subject to field test procedures.
10. **Lighting** – Lighting of metallic or otherwise electrically conductive trees shall be done a minimum of six feet away from the tree and plainly visible from the area used to light the tree. All lighting used for illumination of trees shall be Underwriters Laboratories listed or approved type.