

Department of Building Safety Code Enforcement

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Never, Ever Use Plastic Dryer Ducts

When you replace your dryer, take the opportunity to clean any lint that has built up in your existing dryer duct. If you have to replace any ducting, smooth rigid metal duct is the best choice. If you have to use flexible duct, make sure it's semi-rigid metal duct (on average \$15 for 8 ft. at local home centers) rather than tin foil or flexible plastic duct, which are both fire hazards. Avoid using screws to connect the vent pipe sections. They collect lint that can block the vent. Instead, connect all the sections with aluminum foil tape.

Between the year 2002 and 2004, an average of 12,700 clothes dryer fires occurred. Failure to clean out lint buildup is the leading factor is the leading factor.

