

## ASHRAE Technical FAQ

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Question How much clearance must I have between the refrigerant relief and any opening to the occupied space?

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Answer Section 9.7.8 in [ASHRAE Standard 15-2016](#) prescribes a minimum separation distance of 20 ft (6.1 m). In addition, 9.7.8 also indicates that the relief vent discharge “shall be terminated in a manner that will prevent both the discharged refrigerant from being sprayed directly on personnel in the vicinity and foreign material or debris from entering the discharge piping.” Although not covered explicitly, it would be prudent to avoid pointing relief discharge piping outlets directly towards those openings leading to occupied spaces. See Section 9.7.8 and normative Appendix E in [ASHRAE 15](#) for further details and/or exceptions on relief vent piping.

Copies of the standard and the latest addenda may be purchased and downloaded on-line at our website, [www.ashrae.org](http://www.ashrae.org) or by calling 1-800-527-4723 in the USA and Canada or 1-404-636-8400 worldwide. Current addenda to the standards may be downloaded for free.

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[ASHRAE Standard 15-2016](#), plus [ASHRAE BOD approved addenda](#).

ASHRAE Pubs [User’s Manual for ASHRAE Standard 15-2001](#), Safety Standard for Refrigeration Systems

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Topic References Refrigerant safety code

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	Cognizant ASHRAE Committees	Refer to Organization
1	<a href="#">TC 10.1</a>	
2	<a href="#">TC 9.1</a>	
3	SSPC 15	
4	SSPC 34	
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