



Type III Fire-Resistant Design and Detailing: EXTERIOR WALLS, INTERSECTIONS & BALCONIES

Bruce Lindsey & Taylor Landry

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Questions related to specific materials, methods, and services will be addressed at the conclusion of this presentation.

Course Description

With an increase in mid-rise wood-frame buildings, more designers are seeking information on code-compliant and constructible detailing. Many are unsure of the code's requirements for details, specifically at the intersection of rated assemblies and where structure and fire protection meet. This presentation will focus on common detailing issues and areas of misunderstanding of exterior walls and their intersection with rated floor assemblies. Mid-rise wood-frame opportunities and code-specified building sizes will also be reviewed, followed by discussion of detailing code requirements, code compliance, and rationale for approval with an emphasis on constructability and practicality.

Learning Objectives

- 1. Compare Type II to Type III construction with regard to cost, building size and fire resistance per the International Building Code.
- 2. Review requirements for exterior walls and questions commonly encountered including asymmetric assemblies, the allowance of wood structural panel, and bearing vs. non-bearing requirements.
- 3. Examine a variety of floor-to-exterior wall details for use in wood-frame, Type III construction and discuss code compliance paths and approval rationale for each.
- 4. Explore detailing requirements for balconies.

Outline

- » Context for Type III Construction
- » Fire Rating Requirements for Exterior Walls
 - » Assembly Asymmetry
 - » Addition of Wood Structural Panel
 - » Bearing vs. Non-bearing
 - » Vertical offsets
- » Exterior Wall to Floor Intersection
 - » Fire Resistant Continuity
 - » Fire Retardant Continuity
- » Parapets & Balconies



Landing Apartments, Russell Scott Steedle & Capione Architects, photo Gregory Folkins

Outline

Context for Type III Construction

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College Park , MD

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Photo: Matt Church

Normal, IL

Image: OKW Architects

Atlanta, GA

Los Angeles, CA

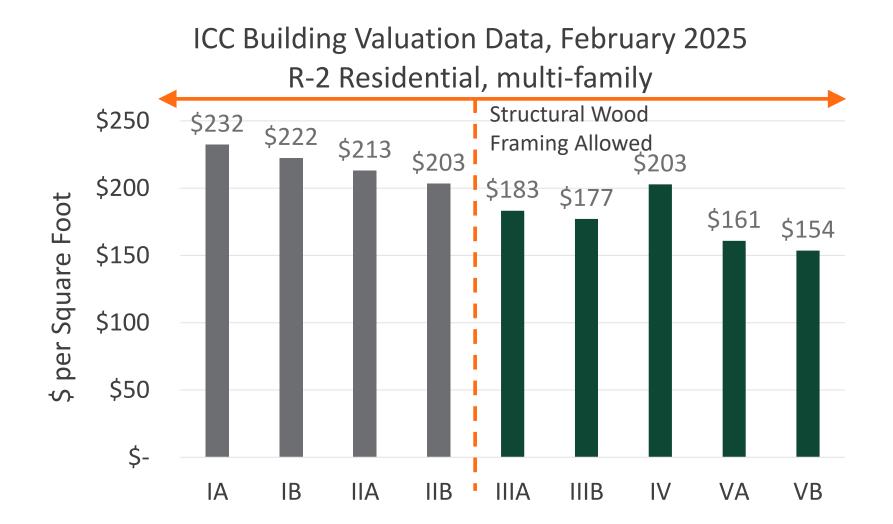
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Photo: Lawrence Anderson/Esto

ICC Building Valuation Data



Designers accustomed to steel and concrete often design buildings of Type IIA or IIB construction.

However, entical height a

nearly identical height and areas can be achieved with wood framing in Type IIIA or IIIB.

Type II (Non-Wood) vs. Type III (Wood Construction) Fire Resistant Requirements

Fire Rating of Structural Elements	IIA	IIB		IIIA	IIIB
IBC Table 601					
Exterior bearing walls (hrs)	1	0		2	2
Interior bearing walls (hrs)	1	0		1	0
All other elements (hrs)	1	0		1	0
IBC Table 602 (705.12 IBC 2021 & 20	024) (Ex	terior N	lo	nbearing	g Walls)
X < 10 ft	1	1		1	1
10 ft ≤ X < 30 ft	1	0		1	0
X ≥ 30 ft	0	0		0	0

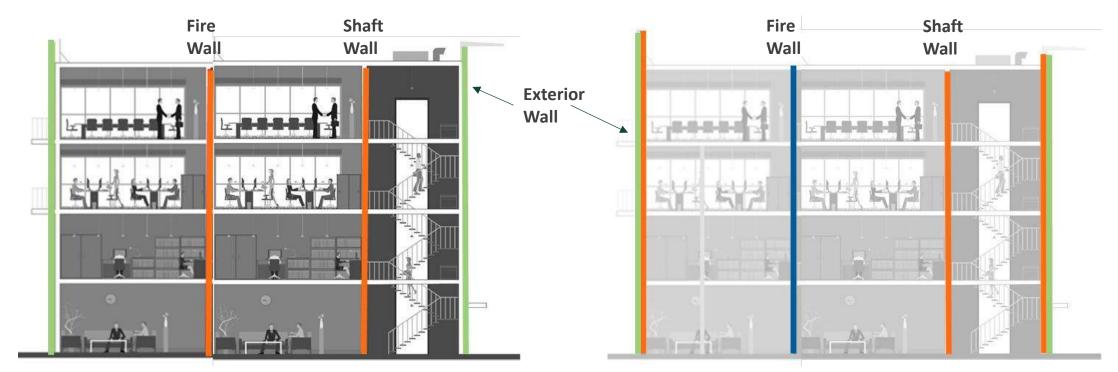
IBC Chapter 7	IIA	IIB	IIIA	IIIB
Shaft Walls (IBC 713.4) ¹	2 max	2 max	2 max	2 max
Fire Walls (706.4) – R Occupancy	2	2	3	3

¹ Shaft Walls are constructed as Fire Barriers (707.3.1). Shaft enclosures require a 2-hr rating when connecting 4 stories or more (1-hr for less than 4 stories).

By comparison, Fire-Resistant rating requirements are very similar between Type II and Type III with few exceptions

- Exterior walls on Type III require 2 hour fire-resistance ratings for both IIIA and IIIB
- Fire Walls (R occupancy) require 3 hour fire-resistance rating

Type II vs. Type III Fire Resistant Requirements



Type II (Non-Wood) Construction

3hr fire-resistance rating
2hr fire-resistance rating
1hr fire-resistance rating

Type III Wood Construction

IBC Building Size Limits with Sprinkler

Residential (R1, R2, and R4) Occupancies

Type IIIA Construction Allowable Limit	NS	S13R	S1	SM	Max Frontage
Stories	4	4	1	5	5
Height (ft)	65	60	85	85	85
Building Area/Story (ft ²)	24k	24k	96k	72k	90k
Total Building Area* (ft ²)	72k	96k	96k	216k	270k

* Assuming max stories built per IBC 506.4 ** Maximum frontage increase possible

903.2.8 Group R

An automatic sprinkler systems installed in accordance with Section 903.3 shall be provided throughout all buildings with a Group R fire area

Outline

» Context for Type III Construction

> Fire Rating Requirements for Exterior Walls

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Fire Resistance-Rated Wall Assemblies

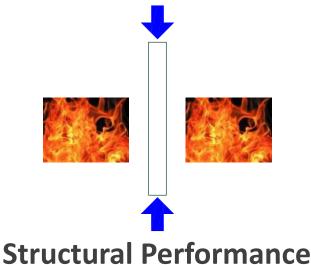
Fire-Resistance Rating: The period of time a building element, component or assembly maintains the ability to confine a fire, continues to perform a given structural function, or both, as determined by the tests, or the methods based on tests, prescribed in Section 703.

Tested under a standardized test fire exposure for a given duration to:

- 1. Prevent the passage of flame and temperature rise from one side to the other
- 2. Continue to provide vertical structural support when exposed to fire and elevated temperatures



Fire Confinement



Choosing Fire Rated Assemblies

Common tested assemblies (ASTM E119) per IBC 703.2:

- » UL Listings
- » Gypsum Catalog
- » Proprietary Manufacturer Tests
- » Industry Documents: such as AWC's DCA3

Alternate Methods per IBC 703.3

- » Prescriptive designs per IBC 721.1
- » Calculated Fire Resistance per IBC 722
- » Fire-resistance designs documented in sources
- » Engineering analysis based on a comparison
- » Fire-resistance designs certified by an approved agency



Fire Resistance-Rated Wall Assemblies

There are four basic types of fire-resistance rated wall assemblies:

- » Exterior Walls (IBC 705)
- » Fire Wall (IBC 706)
- » Fire Barrier (IBC 707)
- » Fire Partition (IBC 708)

Unique to Exterior Walls

Exterior walls differ from other light frame fire assemblies in three basic ways:

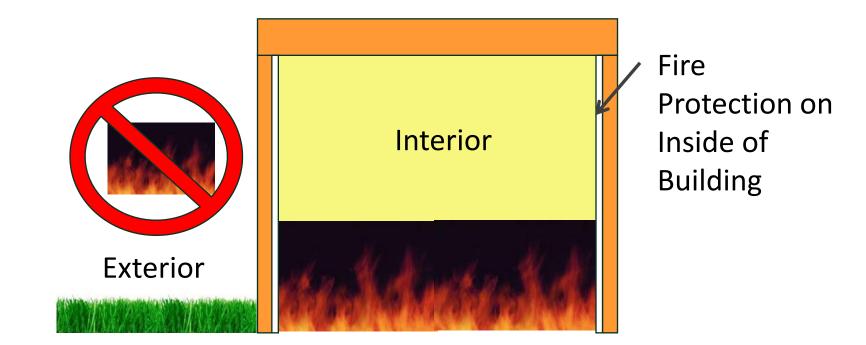
 Minimum hourly Fire-Resistance rating requirements per 2018 IBC Tables 601 and 602*

*Table 705.5 (2021 & 2024 IBC)

- 2. Structural stability requirements
- 3. Non-combustible exception

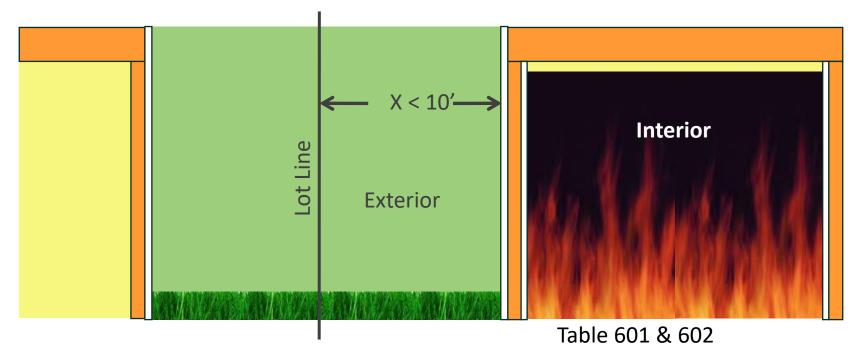
Exterior Walls – IBC 705

Basic assumption is that fires begin at the interior and rated wall assemblies are not required *from* the exterior unless close to another structure.



Exterior Walls – Fire Separation Distance

705.5 Fire Resistance Ratings: Exterior walls shall be fire-resistance rated in accordance with Tables 601 and 602 and this section. The required fire-resistance rating of exterior walls with a fire separation distance of greater than 10 feet shall be rated for exposure to fire from the inside. The required fire-resistance rating of exterior walls with a fire separation distance of less than or equal to 10 feet shall be rated for exposure to fire from both sides.



Exterior Wall Fire Resistance

BUILDING ELEMENT		PE I	TYF	PE II	TYPE III		TYPE IV				TYPE V	
BOILDING ELEMENT	Α	В	Α	В	А	В	Α	В	с	HT	Α	В
Primary structural frame ^f (see Section 202)	3 ^{a, b}	2 ^{a, b, c}	1 ^{b, c}	0°	1 ^{b, c}	0	3ª	2ª	2ª	HT	1 ^{b, c}	0
Bearing walls												
Exterior ^{c, f}	3	2	1	0	2	2	3	2	2	2	1	0
Interior	3ª	2ª	1	0	1	0	3	2	2	1/HT ^g	1	0
Nonbearing walls and partitions Exterior						See T	Table 70	5.5				
Nonbearing walls and partitions Interior ^d	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	See Section 2304.11.2	0	0
Floor construction and associated secondary structural members (see Section 202)	2	2	1	0	1	0	2	2	2	HT	1	0
Roof construction and associated secondary structural members (see Section 202)	1 ¹ / ₂ ^b	$1^{b,c}$	1 ^{b,c}	0°	$1^{b,c}$	0	1 ¹ / ₂	1	1	HT	$1^{b,c}$	0

TABLE 601 FIRE-RESISTANCE RATING REQUIREMENTS FOR BUILDING ELEMENTS (HOURS)

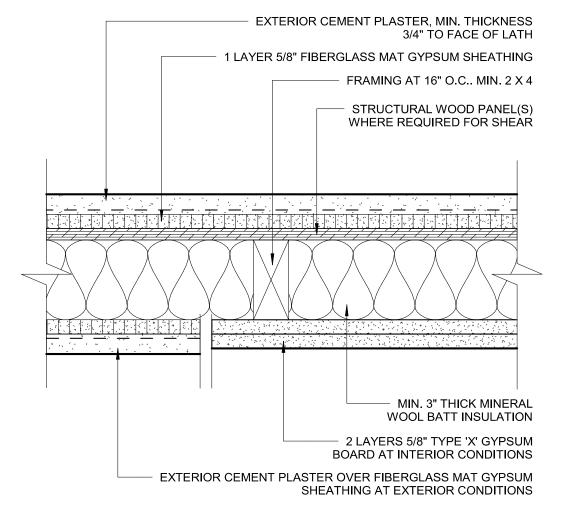
TABLE 705.5 FIRE-RESISTANCE RATING REQUIREMENTS FOR EXTERIOR WALLS BASED ON FIRE SEPARATION DISTANCE^{a, d, g}

FIRE SEPARATION DISTANCE = X (feet)	TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION	OCCUPANCY GROUP H*	OCCUPANCY GROUP F-1, M, S-1'	OCCUPANCY GROUP A, B, E, F-2, I, R ⁱ , S-2, U ^h
$X < 5^{b}$	All	3	2	1
$5 \le X < 10$	IA, IVA	3	2	1
$5 \leq X < 10$	Others	2	1	1
	IA, IB, IVA, IVB	2	1	1°
$10 \le X < 30$	IIB, VB	1	0	0
	Others	1	1	1 ^c
$X \ge 30$	All	0	0	0

Exterior Wall Fire Ratings

- » Using the provisions of Fire Separation Distance (705.5), Tables 601 and 705.5 could result in requiring a 1-hour or 2-hour rating on the inside face of exterior walls, while no rating is required on the exterior face of exterior walls.
- » How do we specify such an asymmetric assembly?
- » This is where prescriptive code methodology begins to break down; procedural data does not align with requirements. Most building jurisdictions understand that this is a deficiency of the system and will recognize one tested assembly for the outside and a second for the inside.

Exterior Walls – Asymmetry



Common issues with tested assemblies:

• Assembly asymmetry: separate assemblies for each side

2-HOUR RATING PER UL DESIGN NO. U371

2-HOUR EXTERIOR WALL

Common Assembly – Type V Construction Exterior Walls – 1-hr Int; 0-hr Ext

IBC Table 721.1(2)

1	1				
	16-1.1ª	$2'' \times 4''$ wood studs at 16'' centers with double top plates, single bottom plate; interior side covered with $5/8''$ Type X gypsum wallboard, 4'' wide, applied horizontally unblocked, and fastened with $2^{1}/_{4}''$ Type S drywall screws, spaced 12'' on center, wallboard joints covered with paper tape and joint compound, fastener heads covered with joint compound. Exterior covered with $3/8''$ wood structural panels, applied vertically, horizontal joints blocked and fastened with 6d common nails (bright) — 12'' on center in the field, and 6'' on center panel edges. Cavity to be filled with $3^{1}/_{2}''$ mineral wool insulation. Rating established for exposure from interior side only.		_	4 ¹ / ₂
16. Exterior walls rated for fire resistance from the inside only in accordance with Section 705.5.	16-1.2ª	$2'' \times 6''$ wood studs at 16'' centers with double top plates, single bottom plate; interior side covered with $\frac{5}{8}''$ Type X gypsum wallboard, 4'' wide, applied horizontally or vertically with vertical joints over studs and fastened with $2^{1}/_{4}''$ Type S drywall screws, spaced 12'' on center, wallboard joints covered with paper tape and joint compound, fastener heads covered with joint compound, exterior side covered with $\frac{7}{16}''$ wood structural panels fastened with 6d common nails (bright) spaced 12'' on center in the field and 6'' on center along the panel edges. Cavity to be filled with $\frac{5}{2}''$ mineral wool insulation. Rating established from the gypsum-covered side only.	_	 _	6°/ ₁₆
	16-1.3ª	$2'' \times 6''$ wood studs at 16'' centers with double top plates, single bottom plates; interior side covered with $\frac{5}{8}''$ Type X gypsum wallboard, 4'' wide, applied vertically with all joints over framing or blocking and fastened with $2^{1}/_{4}''$ Type S drywall screws spaced 7'' on center. Joints to be covered with tape and joint compound. Exterior covered with $\frac{3}{8}''$ wood structural panels, applied vertically with edges over framing or blocking and fastened with 6d common nails (bright) at 12'' on center in the field and 6'' on center on panel edges. R-19 mineral fiber insulation installed in stud cavity. Rating established from the gypsum-covered side only.	_	 _	6 ¹ / ₂

Common Assembly – Type III Construction Exterior Walls – 2-hr Int; 0-hr Ext

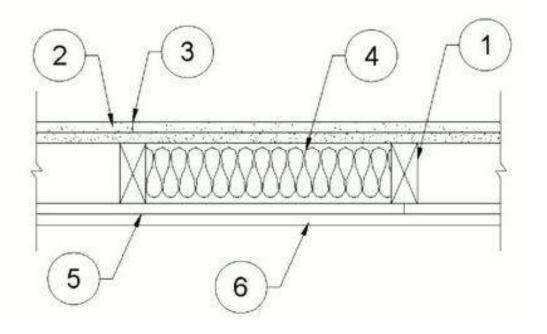
Design No. U349

August 4, 2023

Bearing Wall Rating - 2 Hr Rating Exposed to Fire on Interior Face Only (See Item 6)

Bearing Wall Rating - 1 Hr Rating Exposed to Fire on Exterior Face (See Item 7) Bearing Wall Rating - 2 Hr Rating Exposed to Fire on Exterior Face (See Item 5C or 8) For Wood Studs, Finish Rating — 55 min (Exposed to Fire on Interior Face)

2-HOUR (FIRE FROM INTERIOR ONLY)



- 1) Wood Studs
- 2) 5/8" Gypsum Board
- 3) Joints covered with tape and joint compound
- 4) Batts and Blankets
- 5) Proprietary Building Units
- 6) Exterior Facings

Common Assembly – Type III Construction Exterior Walls – 2-hr Int; 0-hr Ext

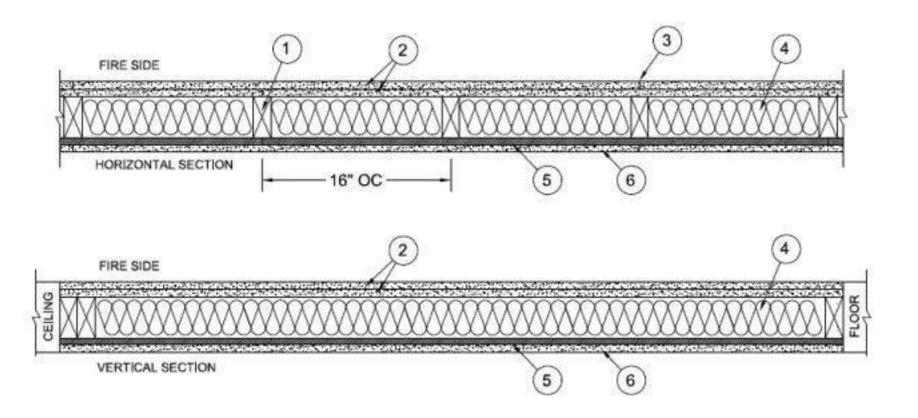
Design No. V314

May 25, 2022

Bearing Wall Rating - 1 Hr Rating Exposed to Fire on Exterior Face (See Item 8)

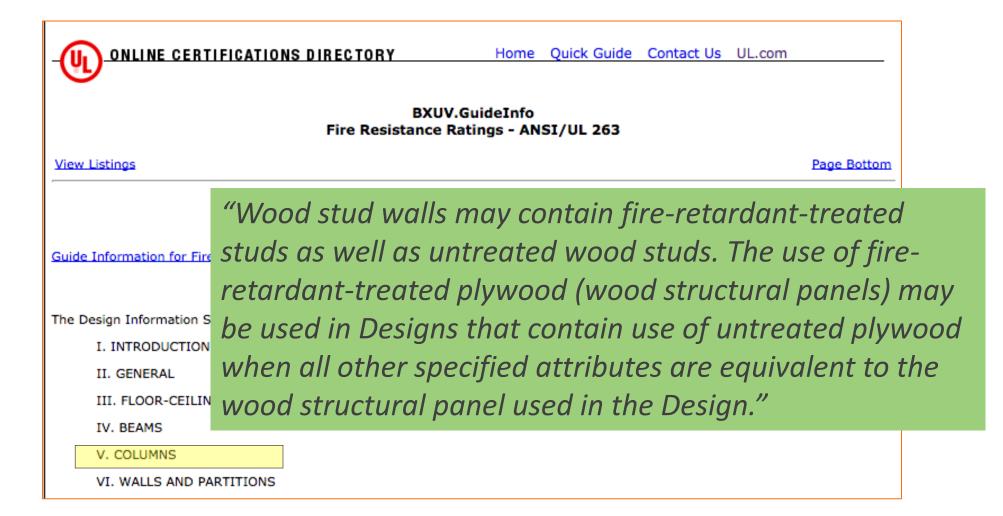
Bearing Wall Rating - 2 Hr Rating Exposed to Fire on Interior Face

Finish Rating — 42 min (Exposed to Fire on Interior Face)



- 1) Wood Studs
- 2) Two Layers -5/8" Gypsum Board
- 3) Joints covered with tape and joint compound
- 4) Batts and Blankets
- 5) FRT Plywood
- 6) Exterior Facings

Exterior Walls – Using FRT Studs



Exterior Walls – Addition of Wood Structural Panel

Can include WSP in assemblies which were tested without them:

- » ESR 2586
- » AWC's DCA4
- » Gypsum Association Manual

ESR 2586:

4.7 Fire-resistive Construction:

Structural-use panels may be installed between the fire protection and the wood studs on either the interior or exterior side of fire-resistance-rated wood frame wall and partition assemblies described in the applicable code, provided the length of fasteners is adjusted for the added thickness of the panel. GA Fire Resistance Design Manual Item 23, Section 1 of the General Explanatory Notes:

"When not specified as a component of a fire- resistance rated wall or partition system, wood structural panels shall be permitted to be added to one or both sides."



Component Additive Method (CAM) for Calculating and Demonstrating Assembly Fire Resistance

Exterior Walls – Bearing vs. Nonbearing

Non loading-bearing exterior walls may have lower fire resistance rating requirements than bearing walls in certain situations. IBC Chapter 2 defines load bearing walls as:

[BS] WALL, LOAD-BEARING. Any wall meeting either of the following classifications:

1. Any metal or wood stud wall that supports more than 100 pounds per linear foot (1459 N/m) of vertical load in addition to its own weight.

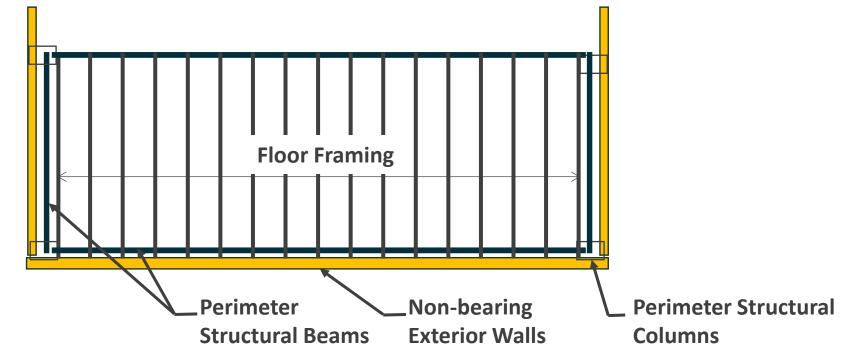
[BS] WALL, NONLOAD-BEARING. Any wall that is not a *load-bearing wall*.

Note that 2x6 exterior wall weighs an average of 12 lbs. pers square foot (vertically) based upon ASCE 7, table C-3.1-1A recommendations. At 8' in height, the dead load of the wall will be 96 lbs per lineal foot. Additional height or any floor/roof loading limits the ability to define an exterior wall as *nonload-bearing*.

Exterior Walls – Bearing vs. Non-Bearing

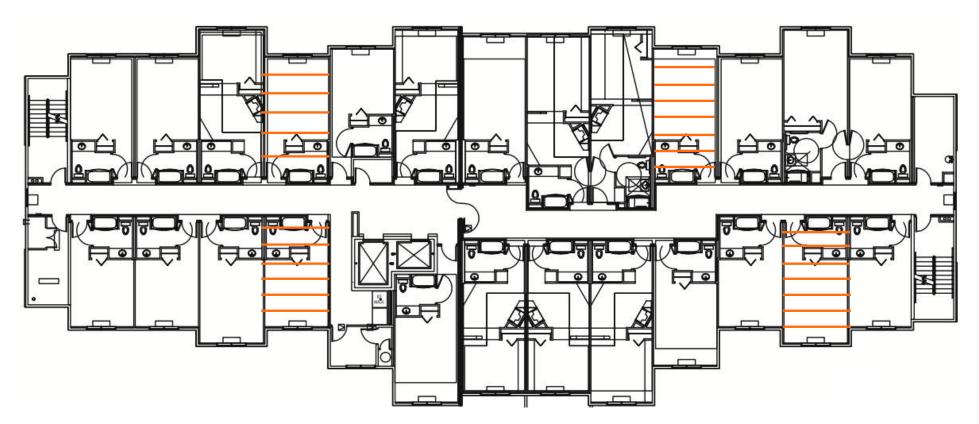
Utilization of structural beams in-board or directly over exterior walls can make walls non-bearing and reduce required fire resistance rating to 1-hr or 0-hr (IBC Table 602)

Note: Beams & Columns will most likely be considered "Primary Structural Frame" & require individual encasement per IBC 704



Exterior Walls – Bearing vs. Non-Bearing

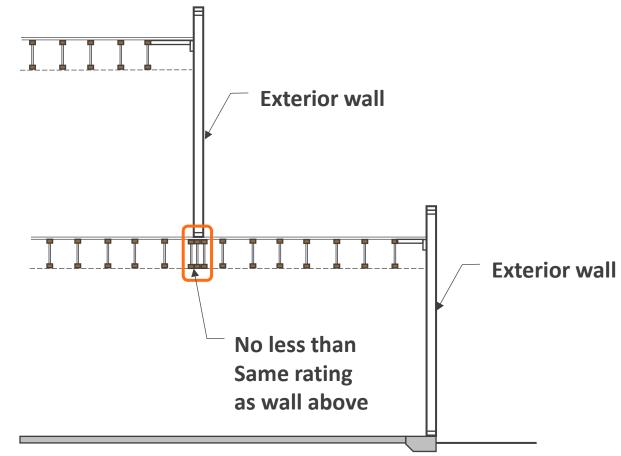
If framing parallel to long exterior walls is possible, minimizes area of load bearing exterior walls



Exterior Walls – Vertical Offsets

There is no requirement for an exterior wall to extend to the foundation in a stepped building.

Posts, beams or walls, that support a rated exterior wall must be fire-resistance rated not less than the rating of the supported wall (IBC 704.1)



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Intersection of Tested Assemblies

- » Many options are available for fire resistance tested floor assemblies and wall assemblies
- » No tested intersection details exist
- » We must understand the intent of the code, provide a rationale that meets the code's intent, and utilize available information and testing results



Type III Exterior Walls – Fire Retardant Treated Wood (FRTW)

Type III and IV-HT Construction - IBC Section 602.3 & 602.4:

Fire-retardant-treated wood framing complying with Section 2303.2 shall be permitted within exterior wall assemblies of a 2-hour rating or less

What does this FRTW requirement include?

- » Wall Framing (Studs & Plates) Yes
- » Wall Sheathing Yes
- » Floor sheathing No, based upon 2024 (consult AHJ for prior IBC)
- » Rim Joist- No, based upon 2024 IBC (consult AHJ for prior IBC)
- » Floor Joists- No, based upon 2024 IBC (consult AHJ for prior IBC)

Exterior Walls – Structural Stability

IBC 705.6 (2018 & 2021 IBC) / IBC 705.7 (2024 IBC) Structural Stability:

Exterior walls shall extend to the height required by 705.11. Interior structural elements that brace the exterior wall but that are not located within the plane of the exterior wall shall have the minimum fire resistance rating required in Table 601 for that structural element. Structural elements that brace the exterior wall but are located outside of the exterior wall or within the plane of the exterior wall shall have the minimum fire resistance rating required in Tables 601 or 602 (705.5 in 2021 & 2024 IBC) for the exterior wall.

Code Commentary – Fire Rating

2018 & 2021 IBC 705.6

Structural stability of fire-resistance-rated of tion is an important concern. Section 705.6-	
elements providing bracing support to be fi	
tance rated for the same duration of time as t	require that the band isist or base
rior wall. In light-frame platform construction,	
require that the band joist or beam support	
floor and the wall above to also be of fire- construction. Although the floor construction	
may not be required to be of fire-resistan	and the second
construction in Type IIB and VB constructio	
effort must be made to ensure that the floor	support for the exterior wall, this section does
least at the exterior wall, are of fire-resista	$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A} + $
construction. Although the floor framing acts	
eral support for the exterior wall, this section of	fire-resistance rated construction."
require that the entire floor system be of find tance-rated construction. To state otherwis	
prohibit Type IIB and VB buildings with an	
less than 10 feet (3048 mm). Only the struct	
ment within the floor system that supports the	e vertical
load of the wall must be of fire-resistance-ra	
struction.	construction and should not be implied to
	indicate that the member should be FRT

IBC 2024 Changes: Exterior Floor to Wall Intersections

Two key additions to the code language were included in the 2024 IBC to help clarify platform framed floor-to-exterior wall details, particularly Type III construction.

705.6 CONTINUITY:

The addition of code language specifically addressing continuity of the fireresistance rating of exterior walls was added as section 705.6

705.7.1 FLOOR ASSEMBLIES IN TYPE III CONSTRUCTION:

The addition of code language specifically addressing fire-resistance ratings for portions of floor assemblies intersecting exterior walls in Type III construction and the material allowed for intersecting structure.

IBC 2024 Addition: Continuity

705.6 Continuity. The *fire-resistance rating* of *exterior walls* shall extend from the top of the foundation or floor/ceiling assembly below to one of the following:

- 1. The underside of the floor sheathing, roof sheathing, deck or slab above.
- 2. The underside of a floor/ceiling or roof/ceiling assembly having a *fire-resistance rating* equal to or greater than the *exterior* wall and the *fire separation distance* is greater than 10 feet.

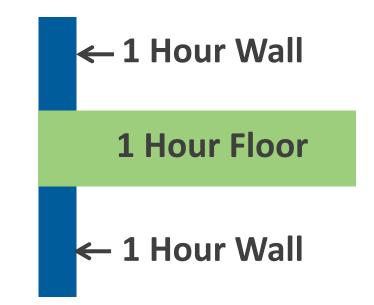
Parapets shall be provided as required by Section 705.12.

Example 2:

Type VA Construction, Group R-2

1 hour FRR exterior wall, supported by 1 hour FRR floor.

If the FRR rating of the floor is equal or greater than the FRR supported exterior wall, then the wall is only required to extend to the underside of the rated floor/ceiling assembly



IBC 2024 Addition: Continuity

705.6 Continuity. The *fire-resistance rating* of *exterior walls* shall extend from the top of the foundation or floor/ceiling assembly below to one of the following:

- 1. The underside of the floor sheathing, roof sheathing, deck or slab above.
- 2. The underside of a floor/ceiling or roof/ceiling assembly having a *fire-resistance rating* equal to or greater than the *exterior* wall and the *fire separation distance* is greater than 10 feet.

← 2 Hour Wall

← 2 Hour Wall

1 Hour Floor

Parapets shall be provided as required by Section 705.12.

Example 1:

Type IIIA Construction, Group R-2

2 hour FRR exterior wall, supported by 1 hour FRR floor

If the FRR of the floor assembly is less than the FRR rating of the exterior wall assembly, then the fire resistance rating of the wall must continue to the underside of the floor sheathing, roof sheathing, deck or slab above.

IBC 2024 Additions: Continuity

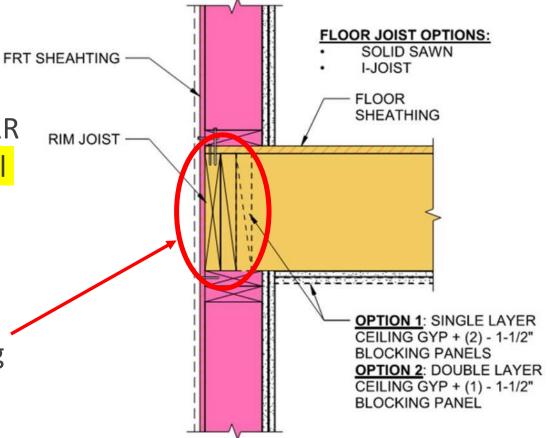
Continuity of Fire Resistance Without Membrane

Type IIIA Construction, Group R-2

2 hour FRR exterior wall, 1 hour FRR floor

Since FRR of the exterior wall is greater than FRR of the floor, the fire resistance rating of the wall must be continuous to the underside of the floor/roof sheathing.

The *membrane* (typically gypsum) need not be continuous to the underside of the floor/ceiling sheathing as long as the FRR of the wall /floor meets or exceeds the FRR of the exterior wall.



IBC 2024 Addition: Floor Assemblies in Type III Construction

The addition of new code language specifically addressing fire-resistance ratings for portions of floor assemblies intersecting exterior walls in Type III construction.

705.7.1 Floor assemblies in Type III construction. In Type III construction where a floor assembly supports gravity loads from an *exterior wall*, the *fire-resistance rating* of the portion of the floor assembly that supports the *exterior wall* shall be not less than the *fire-resistance rating* required for the *exterior wall* in Table 601. The *fire-resistance rating* provided by the portion of the floor assembly supporting and within the plane of the *exterior wall* shall be permitted to include the contribution of the ceiling membrane when considering exposure to fire from the inside. Where a floor assembly supports gravity loads from an *exterior wall*, the *building elements* of the floor construction within the plane of the *exterior wall*, including but not limited to rim joists, rim boards and blocking, shall be in accordance with the requirements for interior *building elements* of Type III construction.

The highlighted text states that the fire resistance of the floor assembly elements supporting, and within the plane of the exterior wall, shall be permitted to include the contribution of the ceiling membrane (typically gypsum) within the calculated fire resistance.

IBC 2024 Addition: Floor Assemblies in Type III Construction

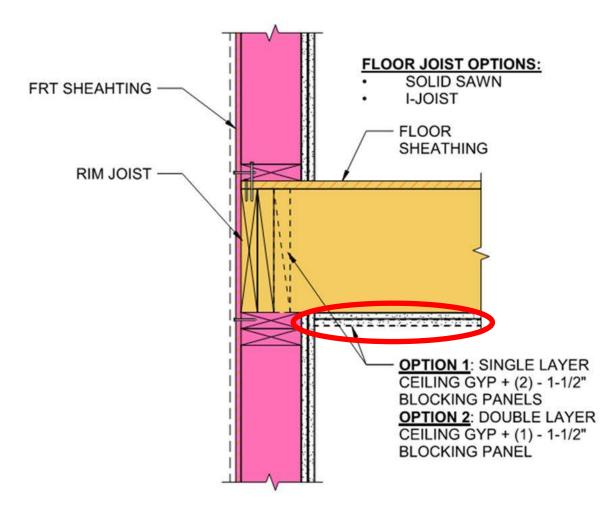


	Table 722.6.2(1) [excerpt]					
	TIME ASSIGNED TO FINISH MATERIALS ON FIRE- EXPOSED SIDE OF WALL					
	3/8" Gypsum Wallboard	10 min.				
	1/2" Gypsum Wallboard	15 min.				
	5/8" Gypsum Wallboard	20 min.				
	2 layers of 3/8" Wallboard	25 min.				
	2 layers of 1/2" Wallboard	40 min.				
	1/2" Type X Gypsum Wallboard	25 min.				
	5/8" Type X Gypsum Wallboard	40 min.				

Contribution of the Ceiling Membrane

To establish the required minimum fire resistance rating for the building elements supporting or within the plane of the exterior wall, the IBC designates the use of Chapter 16 of the National Design Standard for calculation of fire resistance for wood building elements in section 722.



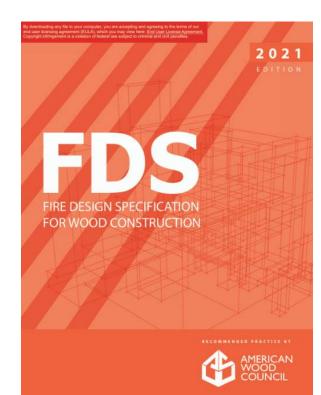
SECTION 722—CALCULATED FIRE RESISTANCE

722.1 General. The provisions of this section contain procedures by which the *fire resistance* of specific materials or combinations of materials is established by calculations. These procedures apply only to the information contained in this section and shall not be otherwise used. The calculated *fire resistance* of specific materials or combinations of materials shall be established by one of the following:

- Concrete, concrete masonry and clay masonry assemblies shall be permitted in accordance with ACI 216.1/TMS 0216.
- 2. Precast and precast, prestressed *concrete* assemblies shall be permitted in accordance with PCI 124.
- 3. Steel assemblies shall be permitted in accordance with Chapter 5 of ASCE 29.
- 4. Exposed wood members and wood decking shall be permitted in accordance with Chapter 16 of ANSI/AWC NDS.

Calculating the FRR of Floor Elements

The 2021 FDS provides guidance for calculating the contribution of the ceiling membrane toward the fire resistance rating of the building elements supporting or within the plane of the exterior wall.



3.8.1 Calculating the Structural Fire Resistance Time

The structural fire resistance time of a wood assembly shall be equal to the sum of the structural fire resistance times assigned to the wood members in 3.8.1.1 and the protection times assigned protective membrane on the fire-exposed side in accordance with 3.8.1.2. The membrane on the unexposed side shall not be included in determining the structural fire resistance time of the assembly.

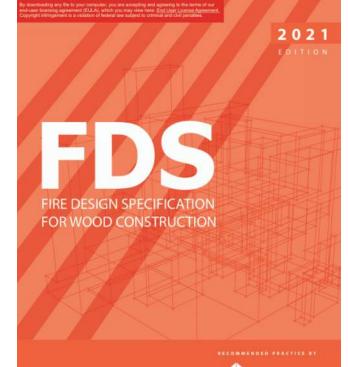
Calculating FRR of Floor Elements

Chapter 16 of the 2024 NDS references the Fire Design Specification for Wood Construction



2024 NDS - 16.1 General

Where determinations of thermal separation and burn-through resistance are required, calculations shall be in accordance with the *Fire Design Specification for Wood Construction*





Contribution of the Ceiling Membrane

The 2021 FDS provides guidance for calculating the contribution of the ceiling membrane toward the fire resistance rating of the building elements supporting or within the plane of the exterior wall.

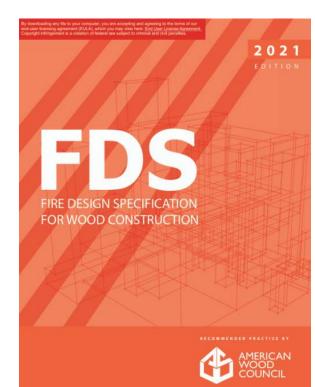
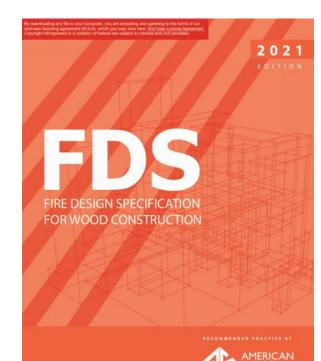


Table 3.3.2.1 Fire Resistance Time for Type X Gypsum Panel Products

Protection Description ¹	Gypsum Panel Cover of Members ^{2, 3} Maximum Fastener Spacing (inches)	Gypsum Panel Membrane Protection of Members & Assemblies ^{4, 5, 6, 7}		Protection Time, t _p
Anne e roa		Maximum Framing Spacing (inches)	Maximum Fastener Spacing (inches)	(minutes)
1/2-inch Type X Gypsum Panel Product	12	16 24	12 8	30 ⁸
5/8-inch Type X Gypsum Panel Product	12	16 24	12 8	409

Contribution of the Ceiling Membrane

The 2021 FDS provides guidance for calculating the contribution of the ceiling membrane which can also include the insulation within the floor/ceiling system as part of the membrane contribution.



3.3.3.2 *Insulation as part of a membrane*: Where mineral wool or fiberglass insulation batts are used as part of a membrane to protect the entire wood member or wood assembly, the protection time calculated in 3.3.3.1 shall be the added protection time. Protection times specified in Table 3.3.3.1 shall not be additive with each other and shall not be increased for additional insulation thickness, density, or R-value.

Table 3.3.3.1 Fire Resistance Time for Protected Wood Surfaces

Insulation Description	Minimum Thickness (inches)	Protection Time, t _p , (minutes)
Mineral wool batts	3.5	19
(minimum nominal density: 2.5 pcf)	1.5	17
Fiberglass batts (minimum R-13)	3.5	3

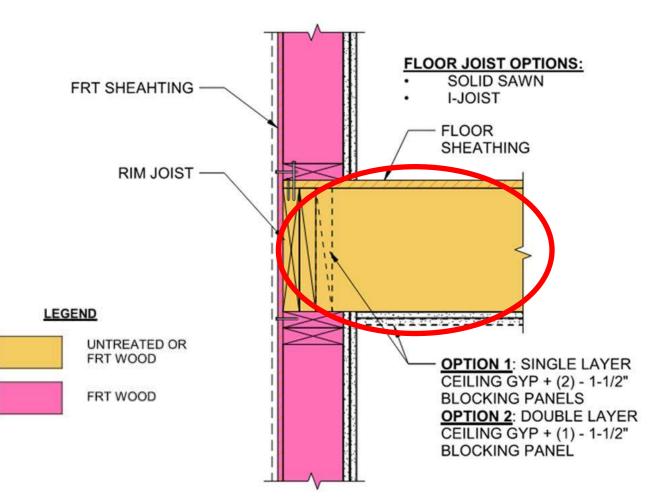
IBC 2024 Addition: Floor Assemblies in Type III Construction

The addition of new code language specifically addressing fire-resistance ratings for portions of floor assemblies intersecting exterior walls in Type III construction.

705.7.1 Floor assemblies in Type III construction. In Type III construction where a floor assembly supports gravity loads from an *exterior wall*, the *fire-resistance rating* of the portion of the floor assembly that supports the *exterior wall* shall be not less than the *fire-resistance rating* required for the *exterior wall* in Table 601. The *fire-resistance rating* provided by the portion of the floor assembly supporting and within the plane of the *exterior wall* shall be permitted to include the contribution of the ceiling membrane when considering exposure to fire from the inside. Where a floor assembly supports gravity loads from an *exterior wall*, the *building elements* of the floor construction within the plane of the *exterior wall*, including but not limited to rim joists, rim boards and blocking, shall be in accordance with the requirements for interior *building elements* of Type III construction.

The highlighted text states that the building elements of the floor construction within the plane of the exterior wall shall be in accordance with the requirements for interior elements of type III construction. Rim joists, rim boards, and blocking (including, but not limited to) need not be constructed of fire-retardant-treated material.

IBC 2024 Addition: Where is FRT required?



The 2024 language of 705.7.1 clarifies that the building elements of the floor construction, supporting and within the plane of the exterior wall, shall be in accordance with the requirements for interior building elements. Accordingly, those building elements do not typically require the use of Fire-Retardant Treated materials in Type III Construction.

Structural Wood Panels on the exterior are required to be Fire-Retardant Treated as they are not considered part of the floor assembly.

Exterior Walls – Intersecting Floors – AWC DCA3

AWC's DCA3 provides floor to wall intersection detailing options

Addresses both continuity provisions and requirements for FRT elements in exterior wall plane



Fire-Resistance-Rated Wood-Frame Wall and Floor/Ceiling Assemblies

Building Code Requirements

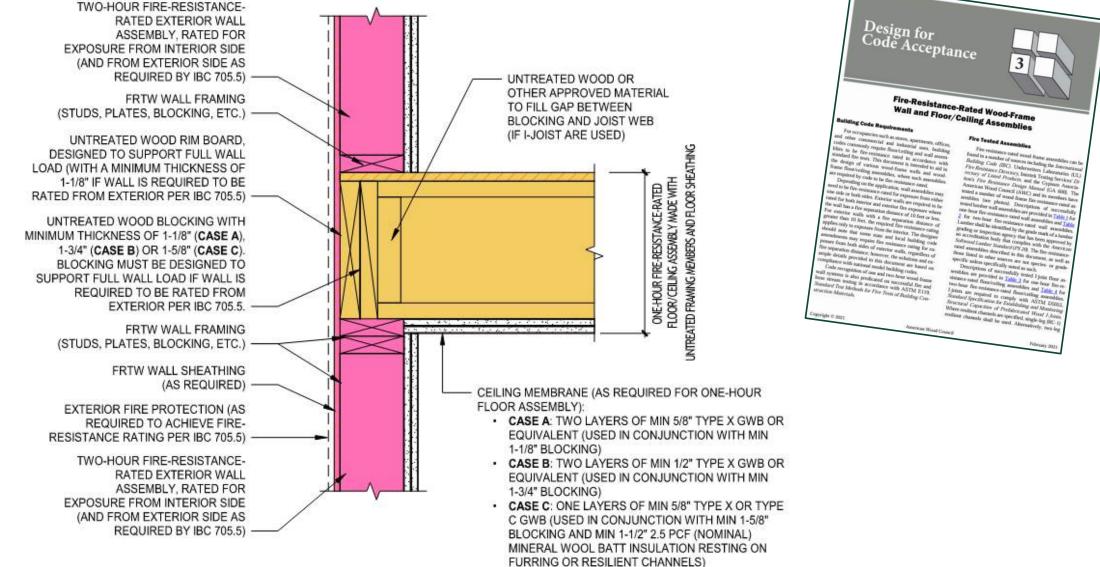
For occupancies such as stores, apartments, offices, and other commercial and industrial uses, building codes commonly require floor/ceiling and wall assemblies to be fire-resistance rated in accordance with standard fire tests. This document is intended to aid in the design of various wood-frame walls and woodframe floor/ceiling assemblies, where such assemblies are required by code to be fire-resistance-rated.

Depending on the application, wall assemblies may need to be fire-resistance-rated for exposure from either one side or both sides. Exterior walls are required to be rated for both interior and exterior fire exposure where the wall has a fire separation distance of 10 feet or less. For exterior walls with a fire separation distance of greater than 10 feet, the required fireresistance-rating applies only to exposure from the interior. The designer should note that some state and local building code amendments may require fire resistance rating for exposure from both sides of exterior walls, regardless of fire separation distance; however, the solutions and example details provided in this doc-

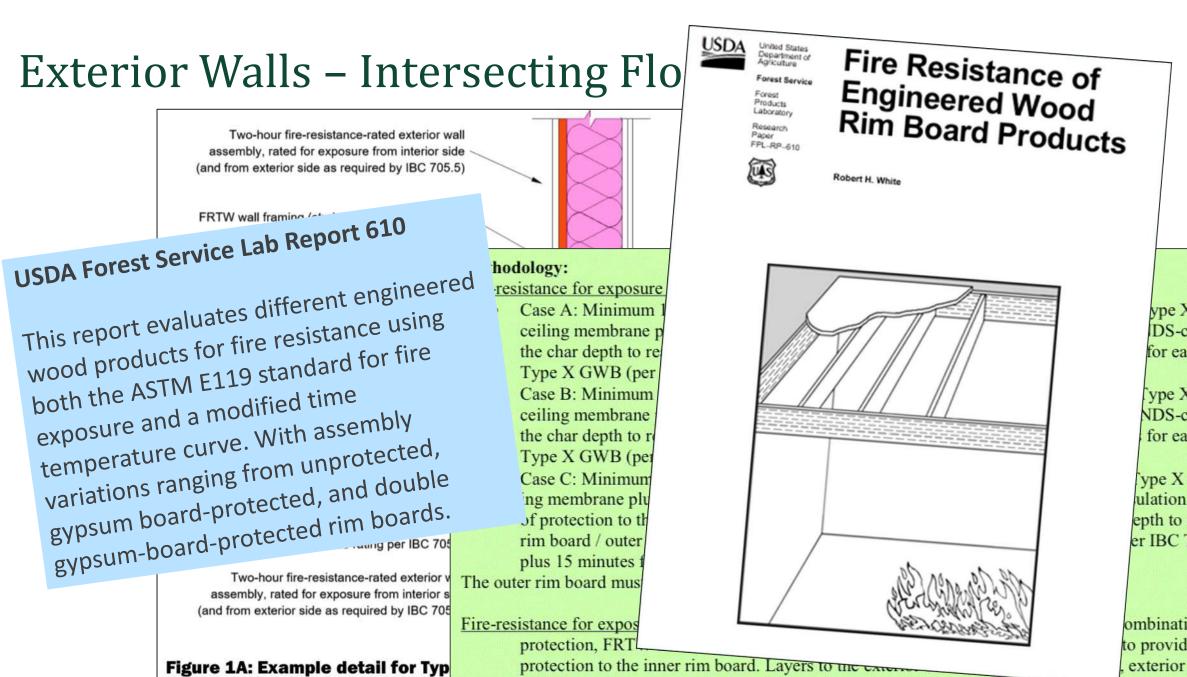
Fire Tested Assemblies

Fire-resistance-rated wood-frame assemblies can be found in a number of sources including the International Building Code (IBC), Underwriters Laboratories (UL) Fire Resistance Directory, Intertek Testing Services' Directory of Listed Products, and the Gypsum Association's Fire Resistance Design Manual (GA 600). The American Wood Council (AWC) and its members have tested a number of wood-frame fireresistance-rated assemblies (see photos). Descriptions of successfully tested lumber wall assemblies are provided in Table 1 for one-hour fire-resistance-rated wall assemblies and Table 2 for two-hour fire-resistancerated wall assemblies. Lumber shall be identified by the grade mark of a lumber grading or inspection agency that has been approved by an accreditation body that complies with the American Softwood Lumber Standard (PS 20). The fire-resistance-rated assemblies described in this document, as well as those listed in other sources are not species- or grade-specific unless specifically noted as such.

Descriptions of successfully tested I-joist floor as-



DCA3 Figure 1a: Example Detail for Type IIIA Exterior Wall-Floor Intersection with Rim Board and Blocking



EPTW sheathing atc) must be sufficient to provide at least 80 minutes of protect

ype X GWE DS-calculat for each lave

ype X GWE NDS-calculat for each laye

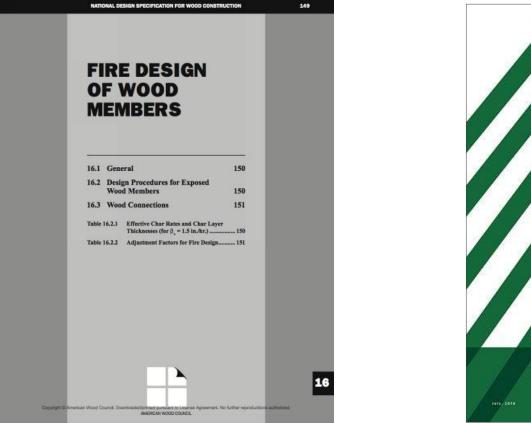
ype X GWB ulation provid epth to reach t er IBC Table 7

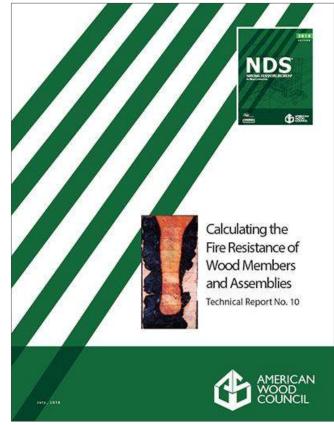
ombination of e to provide two exterior fire pr

on to the outer r

Calculated Fire Resistance of Wood

For Exposed Wood Members: IBC 722.1 References AWC's NDS Chapter 16 (AWC's TR 10 is a design aid to NDS Chapter 16)





Equations for Calculating Fire Endurance

Assumptions:

- » Nominal assumed char rate = 1.5"/hr.
- » Uses ultimate strength for design check

Structurally spanning members: reduced section checked for capacity vs. demand

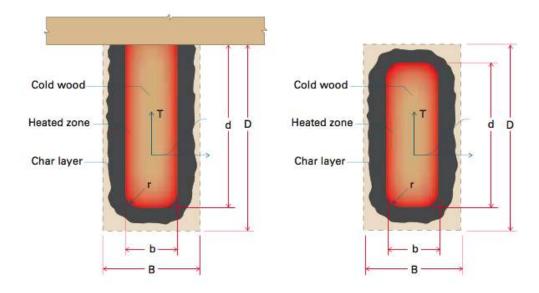


Figure 1-1 Reduction in member breadth and depth over time, t

Source: AWC's TR 10

Exterior Walls – Intersecting Floor Examples

Please note that the following details are examples of what we have seen used on projects and do not necessarily represent details that will be accepted and applicable in all jurisdictions and to all projects.

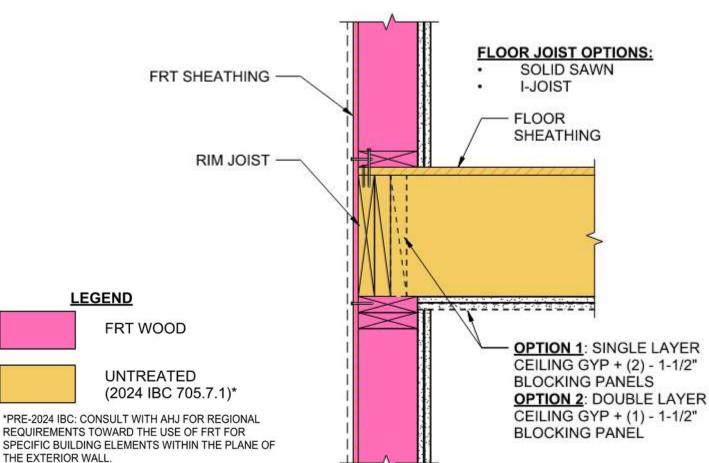
These details are not intended as recommendations for universally accepted details. Local product availability and manufacturer specifications should also be considered for each project.

The Architect of Record and Engineer of Record should verify acceptance of the details used on their project with all provisions of the building code, including local amendments, with the local Authority Having Jurisdiction.



Type III Construction: 2-hr Wall, 1-hr Floor

Typical Platform Framing

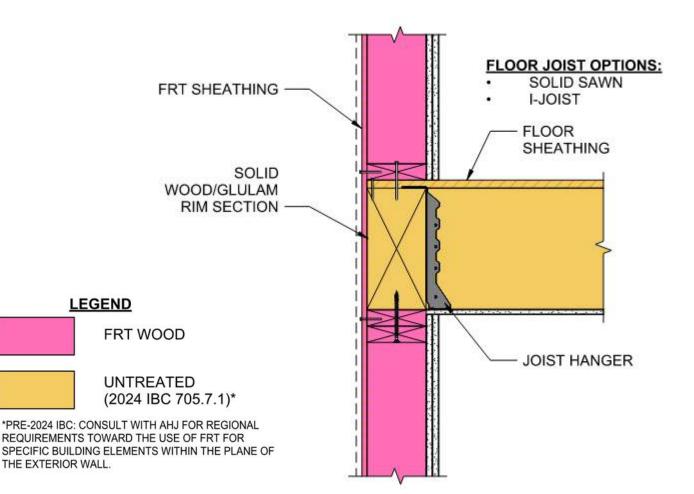


Considerations:

» Shrinkage of rim, plates, joists

- Membranes on both side of wall provide fire resistance via their approved assembly
- » At floor cavity, ceiling provides 1 hour
- » 1 layer of blocking provides 2nd hr through char calculations

Type III Construction: 2-hr Wall, 1-hr Floor Modified Platform Framing

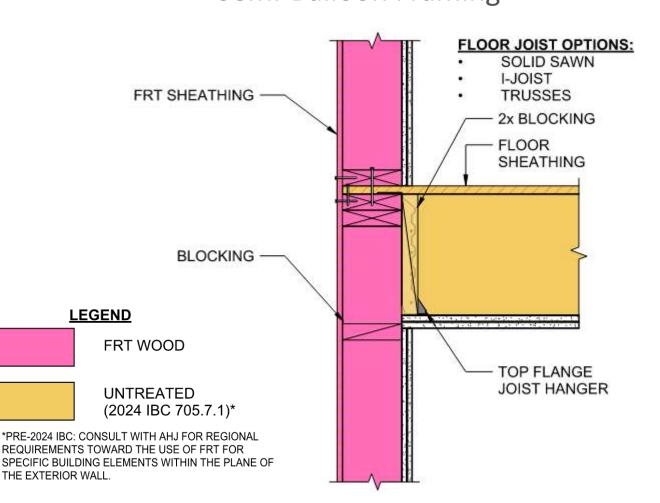


Considerations:

» Shrinkage of rim, plates, joists

- Membranes on both side of wall provide fire resistance via their approved assembly
- » At floor cavity, 4x rim provides
 2-hr protection through char calculations

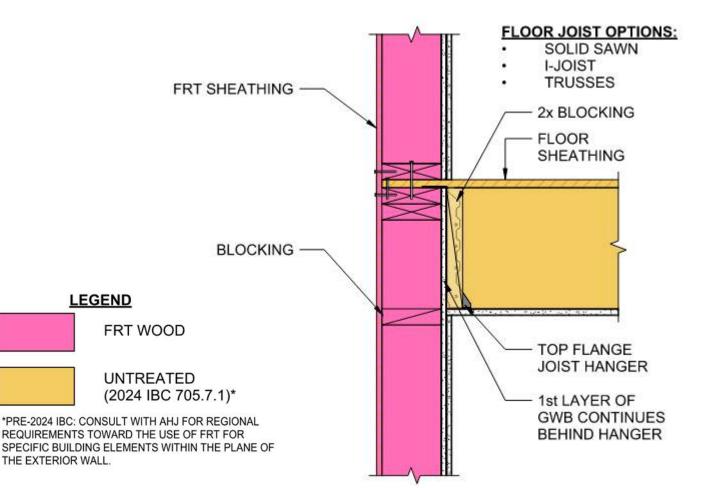
Type III Construction: 2-hr Wall, 1-hr Floor Semi-Balloon Framing



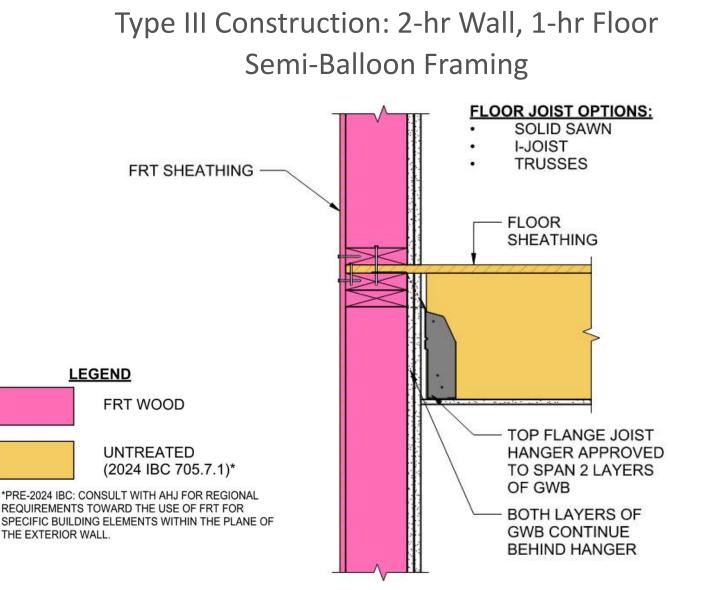
- » Ceiling membrane provides 1-hr protection
- » Blocking between joists provides 2nd hr through char calculations

Type III Construction: 2-hr Wall, 1-hr Floor

Semi-Balloon Framing



- » 1 layer of wall membrane provides 1-hr protection
- » Blocking between joists provides 2nd hr through char calculations

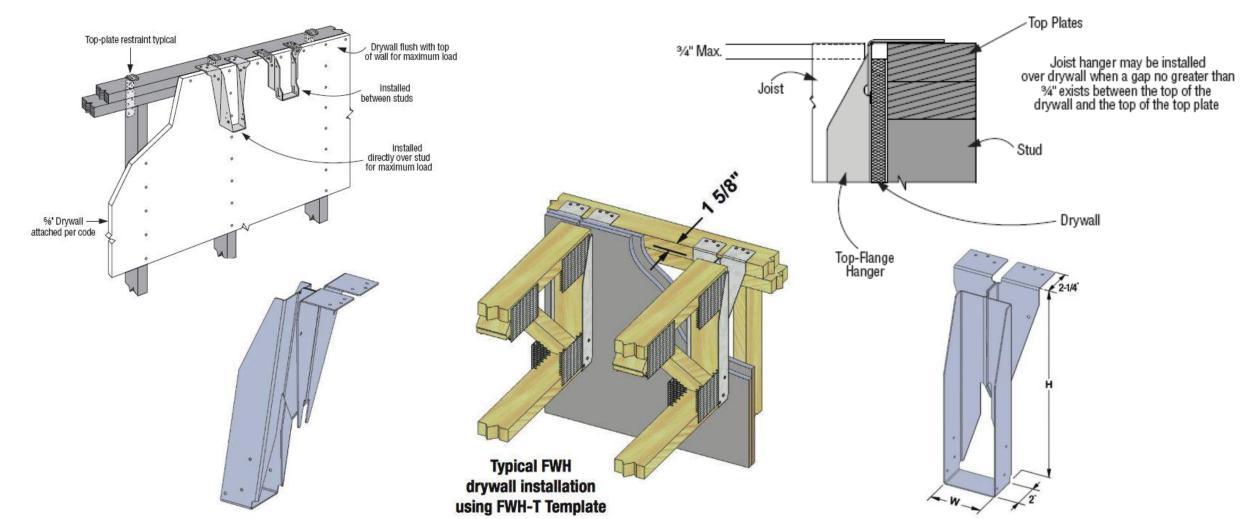


Rationale for detail approval:

 Membranes on both side of wall provide fire resistance via their approved assembly

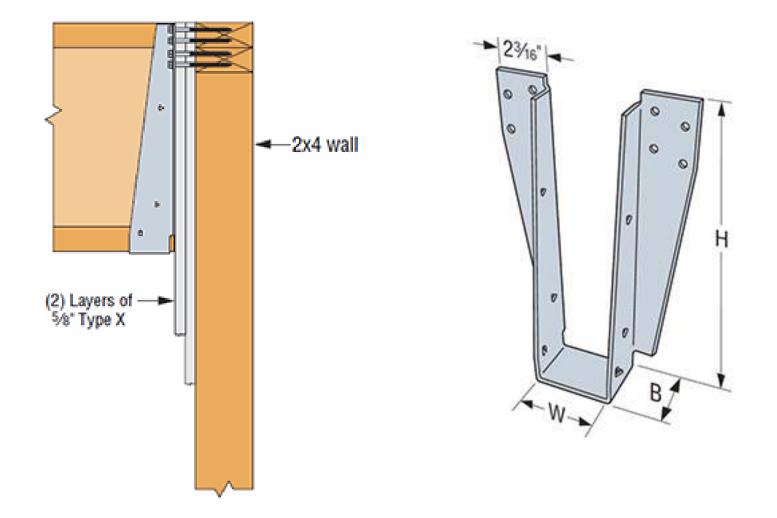
Over Gypsum Hangers

Commonly called Fire Wall or Drywall Hangers

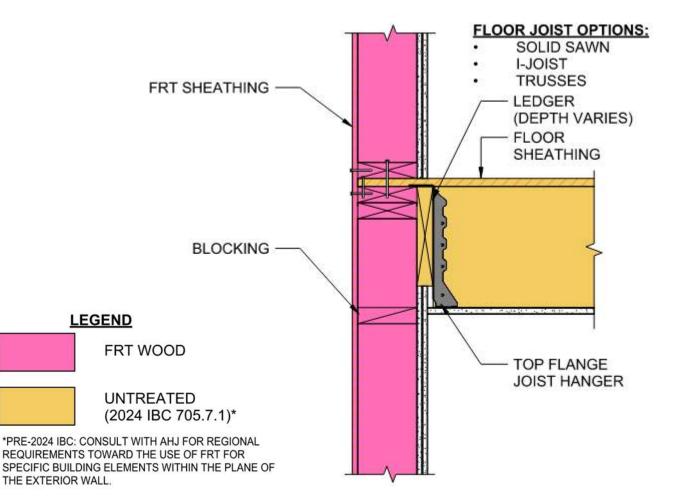


Over Gypsum Hangers

Top Flange Hangers & Face Mount Hangers Available



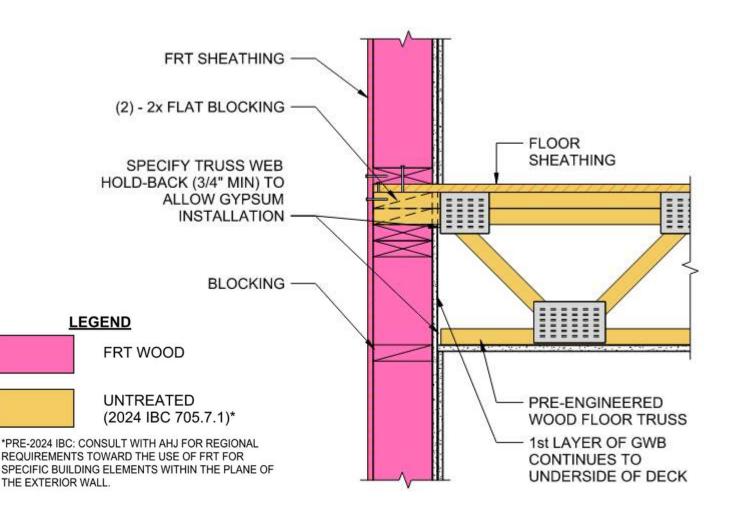
Type III Construction: 2-hr Wall, 1-hr Floor Semi-Balloon Framing w/ Ledger



This detail is often used with a balcony; exterior ledger is thrubolted

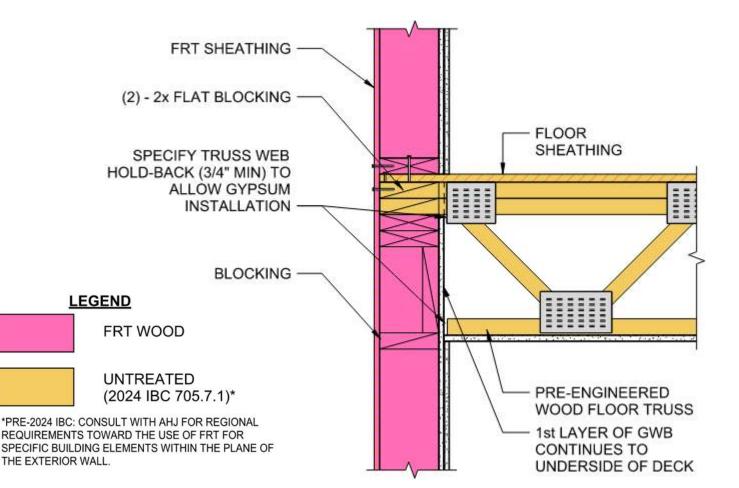
- Membranes on both side of wall provide fire resistance via their approved assembly
- » At floor, ceiling membrane provides 1 hr
- » Blocking provides 2nd hr & maintains FRT continuity

Type III Construction: 2-hr Wall, 1-hr Floor Platform Framing w/ Top Chord Bearing



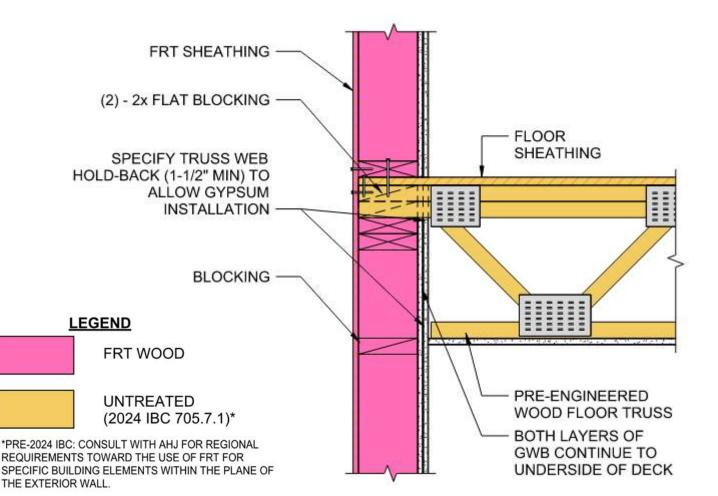
- Membranes on both side of wall provide fire resistance via their approved assembly
- » At floor cavity ceiling membrane provides 1st hr
- » 1 layer of wall membrane provides 2nd hr

Type III Construction: 2-hr Wall, 1-hr Floor Platform Framing w/ Top Chord Bearing



- Membranes on both side of wall provide fire resistance via their approved assembly
- » At floor cavity, blocking in wall provides 1st hr
- » 1 layer of wall membrane and ceiling membrane provides 2nd hr

Type III Construction: 2-hr Wall, 1-hr Floor Platform Framing w/ Top Chord Bearing

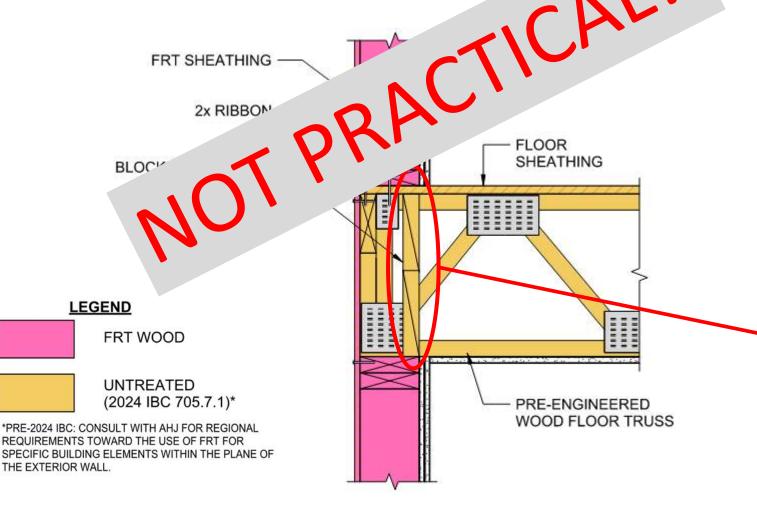


Rationale for detail approval:

 Membranes on both side of wall provide fire resistance via their approved assembly

Exterior Walls – Details Matter! Geometric Interference Components

Type III Construction: 2-hr Wall, 1-hr F^I Platform Framing w/ Bottom Che



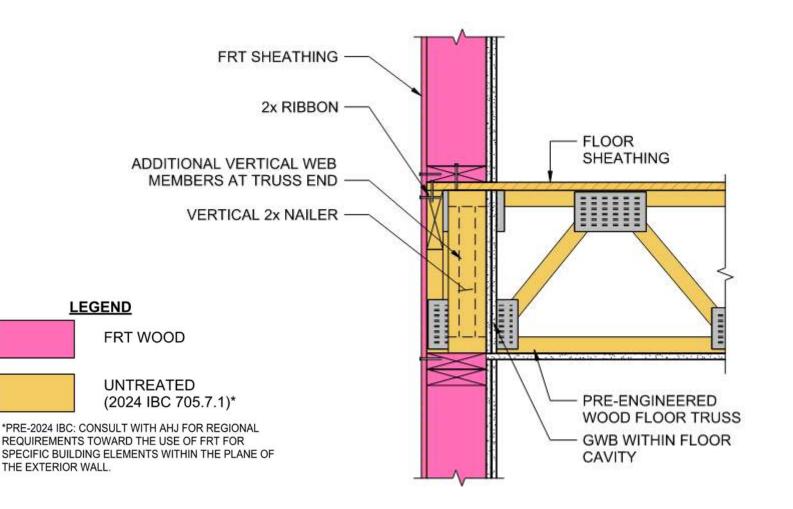
Rationale for detail approval:

- Membranes on both side of wall provide fire resistance via their approved assembly
- » Combined floor assembly, membrane and blocking provide 2 hours of fire resistance

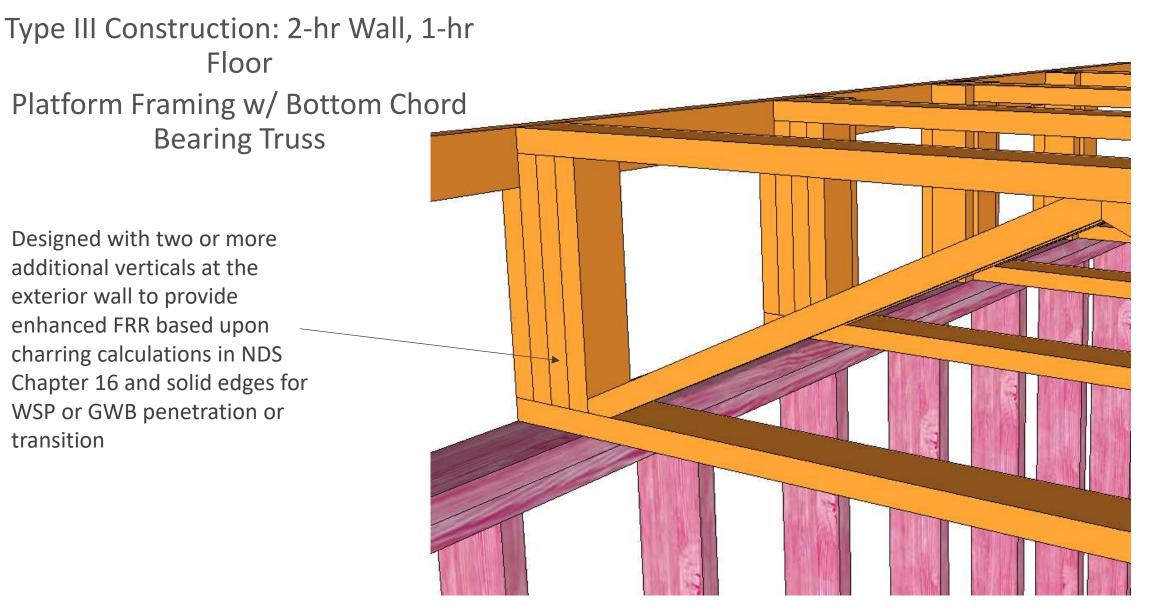
Constructability Challenges:

- » Blocking support needed
- » Joints may require fire caulk
- » Geometry of truss webs conflictive with blocking

Type III Construction: 2-hr Wall, 1-hr Floor Platform Framing w/ Bottom Chord Bearing

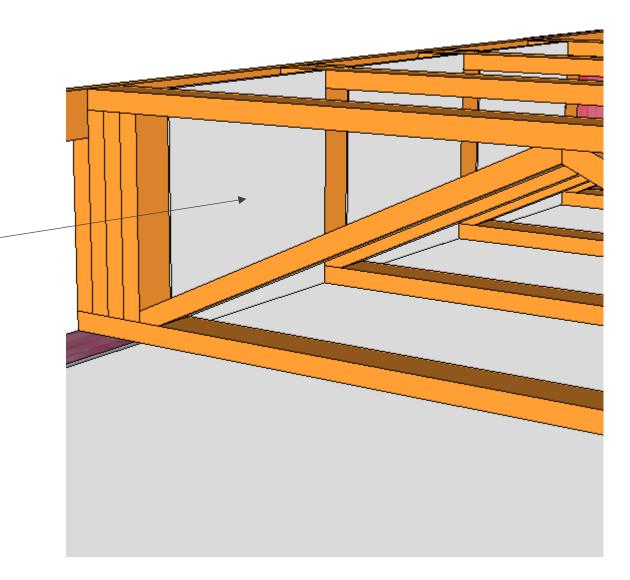


- Membranes on both side of wall provide fire resistance via their approved assembly
- Combined floor assembly, membrane and blocking provide additional fire resistance



Type III Construction: 2-hr Wall, 1-hr Floor Platform Framing w/ Bottom Chord Bearing Truss

Gypsum wall panels installed as required between trusses to maintain FRR of building elements supporting or in the plane of the exterior wall (ceiling gypsum omitted in illustration for clarity)



Type III Construction: 2-hr Wall, 1-hr Floor Platform Framing w/ Bottom Chord Bearing Truss

Add vertical blocking each side of truss (highlighted blue) to provide nailing base for gypsum panels between trusses

The extra vertical truss members, vertical blocking members, and gypsum wallboard panels combine with ceiling membrane to provide req'd fire resistance rating for building members supporting or within the plane of the exterior wall



Outline

- » Context for Type III Construction
- » Fire Rating Requirements for Exterior Walls
 - » Assembly Asymmetry
 - » Addition of Wood Structural Panel
 - » Bearing vs. Non-bearing
 - » Vertical offsets
- » Exterior Wall to Floor Intersection
 - » Fire Resistant Continuity
 - » Fire Retardant Continuity
- > Parapets & Balconies

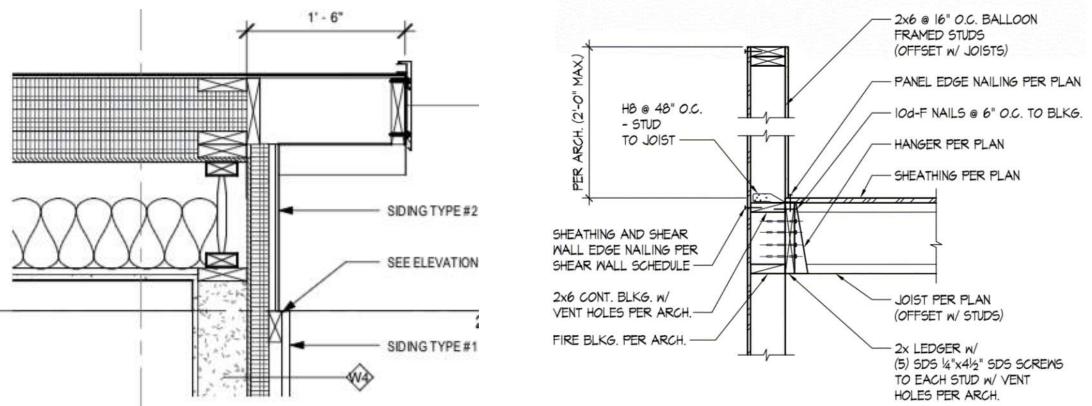


1430 Q, The HR Group Architects, Buehler Engineering, Greg Folkins Photography

Exterior Wall – Roof Intersection

The floor-wall intersection principles discussed previously apply here too - DCA 3 details could be applied to this condition

Discussion with Building Official to determine their interpretation and requirements is often warranted



Parapets – IBC 705.11.1

Parapets, where required, shall have:

- » the same fire resistance as the supporting wall
- » minimum height of 30" above roof surface

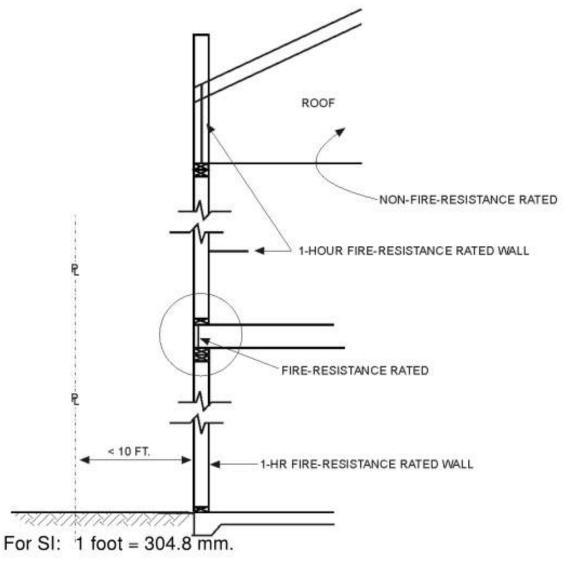


Figure 705.6 TYPE IIB AND VB EXTERIOR FIRE-RESISTANCE-RATED WALL CONTINUITY AND STRUCTURAL STABILITY

Parapets – IBC 705.11

Parapets shall be provided on exterior walls of buildings.

Exceptions:

- 1. The wall is not required to be fire rated per Table 602
- 2. Floor area is \leq 1000 sf on each floor
- Walls terminate at a roof that is rated for 2-hr or more OR
 - Where roof and supporting construction are noncombustible



Parapets – IBC 705.11 (IBC 705.12 – 2024 IBC)

Parapets shall be provided on exterior walls of buildings.

Exceptions:

- 4. 1hr rated exterior walls that terminate at the underside of the roof sheathing where:
 - » Framing parallel to wall is not less than 1-hr rated for 4' for Group R/U and 10' for other occupancies
 - » Framing perpendicular to wall is 1-hr rated for entire span
 - » Openings are not located within 5' of the exterior wall for Group R/U and 10' for other occupancies.
 - » Entire building has class B roofing
- 5. Groups R-2 and R-3 where roofing is Class C, 1-hr rated exterior walls that terminate at the underside of the roof sheathing where:
 - » Sheathing is FRT for 4' OR
 - » 5/8" Type X gyp on underside of deck for 4'
- 6. Exterior wall is permitted to have >25% unprotected openings

Code Commentary – IBC 705.11.1

If a building is type III construction and the exterior walls are framed with fire-retardant treated wood, do the parapets need to be framed with FRTW?

Parapet wall construction shall be of construction	
noncombustible material depending or	the exterior
wall requirements of the type of con	"Parapet wall construction shall be of
required for the exterior wall. The interior	combustible or noncombustible material
ing facing the roof, including the flash	depending on the exterior well
noncombustible to a height of 18 inch	depending on the exterior wan
above the roof. The required height o	
shall be 30 inches (762 mm) above the	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
unless the roof slopes upward away fro	and shall be of fire-resistance-rated
a pitch of 2 in 12 or greater. In some c	construction as required for the exterior
part of this section requires a higher para	construction as required for the exterior
ing on the FSD. When the slope of the	wall."
in 12, the parapet shall extend to a heigh	nt equal to the
height of the roof at the point determined as follows:	
3 • • • • • • • • • •	

Code Commentary - IBC 705.6

What is the requirement for continuity with regard to parapets?

For exterior walls, this section requires fire-resistance-rated construction to extend to the roof construction or to the top of the parapet if a parapet is required (see Section 705.11). This beg "For exterior walls, this section requires firetion-in conventional light-frame platform resistance rated construction to extend to the tion, is the floor system supported by exterior wall and supporting the exterior roof or to the top of the parapet if a parapet part of the exterior wall? And, if so, how is required. ... When parapet walls are not limits do you go to provide a fire-resista This is a valid concern in Type IIB and V required the exterior wall for fire-resistancetion with an FSD of less than 10 feet rating purposes stops at the roof/ceiling because the exterior wall is required to resistance rating while the floor system construction." the continuity and the structural integrit illustrated in Commentary Figure 705.6-When parapet walls are not required, the exterior wall for fire-resistant rating purposes stops at the roof/ceiling construction. Interior structural elements which brace an exterior

Balconies – IBC 705.2.3.1

Balconies of combustible construction and non-FRT shall be:

- » Rated in accordance w/ Table 601 for floors
- » Or be of Type IV
- » And shall not exceed 50% of bldg perimeter

Exceptions

- » Balconies in Type III, IV and V can be of type V construction and shall not have fire resistance rating if sprinkler protection provided
- » Non-FRT wood is permitted for rails and guardrails

Balconies – IBC 705.2.3.1

So....

For Type III or V balcony options are:

- 1. Non-combustible: no sprinklers, no fire rating
- 2. **FRT**: no fire sprinklers, no fire rating
- 3. **Type IV**: no fire sprinklers, no fire rating
- 4. Non-FRT: with fire sprinkler, no fire rating
- 5. Non-FRT: no sprinkler, fire rated per 601 & 602





Disclaimer: These options are allowed by code for meeting construction type and fire-resistance rating requirements. They do not address durability considerations. Other code requirements may apply.



As a result of the Berkeley balcony collapse in 2015, several code changes were implemented in the 2018 IBC relative to balcony durability, inspections,

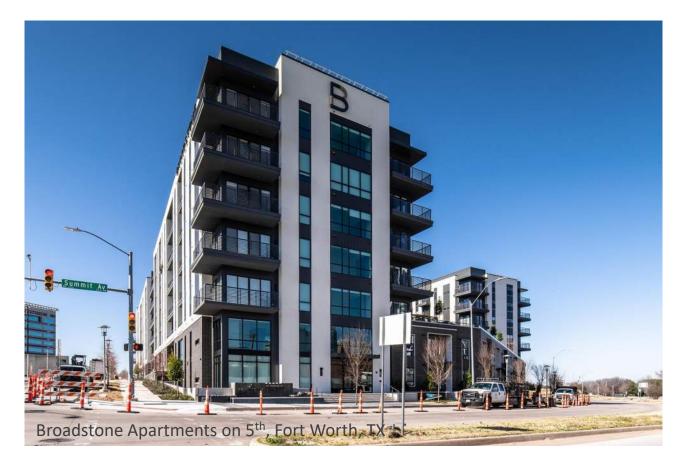
ventilation and moisture protection

Changes Included:

Impervious moisture barrier system changes:

- Thorough documentation on construction documents
- Inspections
- Positive drainage

Ventilation requirements



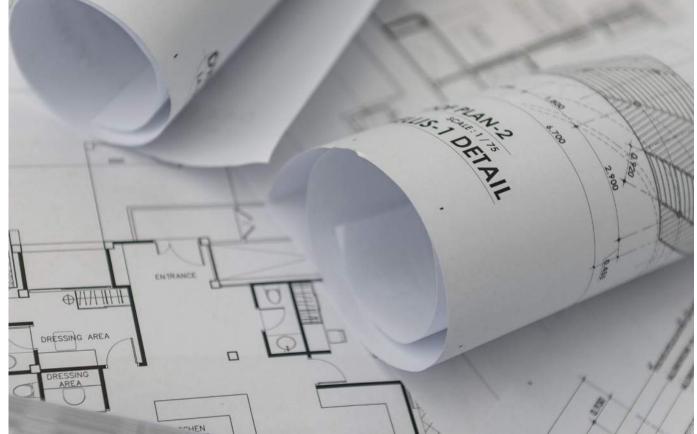
Documentation of impervious moisture barrier system on the construction documents, IBC 107.2.5 (new section)

IBC 107.2.5 Exterior balcony and elevated walking surfaces. Where balcony or other elevated walking surfaces are exposed to water from direct or blowing rain, snow, or irrigation, and the structural framing is protected by an impervious moisture barrier, the construction documents shall include details for all elements of the impervious moisture barrier system. The construction documents shall include manufacturer's installation instructions.



Documentation of impervious moisture barrier system on the construction documents, IBC 107.2.5 (new section)

Purpose: ensure that all installation details and system components are fully documented to enable proper installation techniques and material use

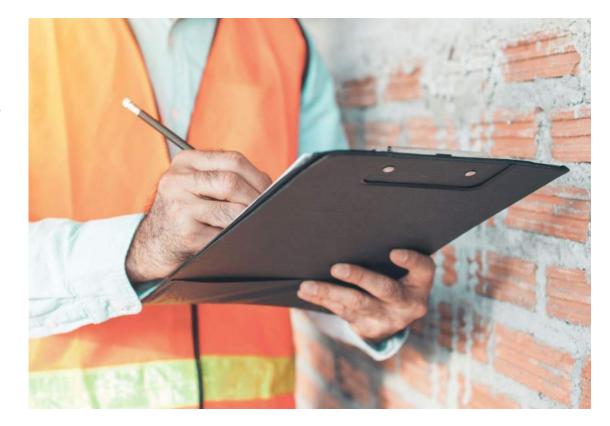


Required inspection of impervious moisture barrier system, IBC 110.3.6 (new section)

IBC 110.3.6 Weather exposed balcony and walking

surface waterproofing. Where balcony or other elevated walking surfaces are exposed to water from direct or blowing rain, snow, or irrigation, and the structural framing is protected by an impervious moisture barrier, all elements of the impervious moisture barrier system shall be not be concealed until inspected and approved.

Exception: Where special inspections are provided in accordance with Section 1705.1.1, Item 3.



Required inspection of impervious moisture barrier system, IBC 110.3.6 (new section)

Purpose: ensure that an inspection of the impervious moisture barrier system takes place prior to enclosing the space.

A further step toward ensuring that systems are installed in the intended manner with the ability to function as designed



Positive drainage for impervious moisture barrier systems, IBC 2304.12.2.5 (added language underlined)

IBC 2304.12.2.5 Supporting members for permeable floors and roofs.

Wood structural members that support moisturepermeable floors or roofs that are exposed to the weather, such as concrete or masonry slabs, shall be of naturally durable or preservative treated wood unless separated from such floors or roofs by an impervious moisture barrier. <u>The impervious moisture barrier</u> system protecting the structure supporting floors shall provide positive drainage of water that infiltrates the moisture-permeable floor topping.



So what are the options?

When wood balcony framing is covered with a moisture permeable topping such as a concrete slab, the wood framing must meet one of the following criteria:

 Be preservative-treated or naturally decay resistant wood

or

Be covered with an impervious moisture barrier system <u>with</u>
 <u>positive drainage</u>



If the impervious moisture barrier system does not have positive drainage, water that infiltrates the topping can remain stagnant over the impervious moisture barrier system, creating hydrostatic pressure

Positive drainage components commonly include a drainage mat above a waterproof membrane

Some feel that using both preservative treated wood and an impervious moisture barrier system with positive drainage is the best approach, even though it exceeds 'code minimums'



Walter Huntington Apartments

Enclosed balconies must be ventilated, IBC 2304.12.2.6 (new section)

IBC 2304.12.2.6 Ventilation required beneath balcony or elevated walking surfaces. Enclosed framing in exterior balconies and elevated walking surfaces that are exposed to rain, snow, or drainage from irrigation, shall be provided with openings that provide a net free cross ventilation area not less than 1 /150 of the area of each separate space.



Type III Construction Detail Examples

What is being enforced in jurisdictions you are working in?



QUESTIONS?

This concludes The American Institute of Architects Continuing Education Systems Course

Speaker name

Speaker organization

Speaker email address

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