

Construction Types - Definitions

TYPE I-A--Fire Resistant Non-combustible (Commonly found in high-rise buildings and Group I occupancies).

- 3 Hr. Exterior Walls*
- 3 Hr. Structural Frame
- 2 Hr. Floor/Ceiling Assembly
- 1 ½ Hr. Roof Protection

TYPE I-B--Fire Resistant Non-Combustible (Commonly found in mid-rise office & Group R buildings).

- 2 Hr. Exterior Walls*
- 2 Hr. Structural Frame
- 2 Hr. Ceiling/Floor Separation
- 1 Hr. Ceiling/Roof Assembly

TYPE II-A--Protected Non-Combustible (Commonly found in newer school buildings).

- 1 Hr. Exterior Walls
- 1 Hr. Structural Frame
- 1 Hr. Floor/Ceiling/Roof Protection

TYPE II-B--Unprotected Non-Combustible (Most common type of non-combustible construction used in commercial buildings).

Building constructed of non-combustible materials but these materials have no fire resistance.

TYPE III-A--Protected Combustible (Also known as "ordinary" construction with brick or block walls and a wooden roof or floor assembly which is 1 hour fire protected).

- 2 Hr. Exterior Walls*
- 1 Hr. Structural Frame
- 1 Hr. Floor/Ceiling/Roof Protection

TYPE III-B--Unprotected Combustible (Also known as "ordinary" construction; has brick or block walls with a wooden roof or floor assembly which is not protected against fire. These buildings are frequently found in "warehouse" districts of older cities.)

- 2 Hr. Exterior Walls*
- No fire resistance for structural frame, floors, ceilings, or roofs.

TYPE IV--Heavy Timber (also known as "mill" construction; to qualify all wooden members must have a minimum nominal dimension of 8 inches.)

- 2 Hr. Exterior Walls*
- 1 Hr. Structural Frame or Heavy Timber
- Heavy Timber Floor/Ceiling/Roof Assemblies

TYPE V-A--Protected Wood Frame (Commonly used in the construction of newer apartment buildings; there is no exposed wood visible.)

- 1 Hr. Exterior Walls
- 1 Hr. Structural Frame
- 1 Hr. Floor/Ceiling/Roof

TYPE V-B--Unprotected Wood Frame (Examples of Type V-N construction are single family homes and garages. They often have exposed wood so there is no fire resistance.)

- Note exceptions in the building code for fire resistance ratings of exterior walls and opening protection.