

Please reference chapters noted in the International Building Code (IBC) for additional requirements, information and clarification.

## Types of Construction/IBC Chapter 6

**Types I & II** - Building Elements are of noncombustible materials.

**Type III** - Exterior walls are of noncombustible materials and the interior building elements are of any material permitted by the code.

**Type IV** - H. T. (Heavy Timber) - Exterior walls are of noncombustible materials and the interior building elements are of solid or laminated wood without concealed spaces.

**Type V** - Structural elements, exterior and interior walls are of any materials permitted by the code.

VA. Fire-resistance rated construction.

VB. Non fire-resistance rated construction.

## Occupancy Groups/IBC Chapter 3

**A-1** - Assembly uses, usually with fixed seating, intended for the production and viewing of the performing arts or motion pictures including, but not limited to:

Motion picture theaters  
Symphony and Concert Halls  
Television and Radio Studios admitting an audience  
Theaters

**A-2** - Assembly uses intended for food and/or drink consumption including, but not limited to:

Banquet halls  
Casinos (gaming areas)  
Nightclubs  
Restaurants, cafeterias and similar dining facilities (including associated commercial kitchens)  
Taverns and bars

**A-3** - Assembly uses intended for worship, recreation or amusement and other assembly uses not classified elsewhere in Group A including, but not limited to:

Amusement arcades  
Art galleries  
Bowling alleys  
Community halls  
Courtrooms  
Dance halls (not including food or drink consumption)  
Exhibition halls  
Funeral parlors  
Gymnasiums (without spectator seating)  
Indoor swimming pools (without spectator seating)  
Indoor tennis courts (without spectator seating)  
Lecture halls  
Libraries  
Museums  
Places of religious worship  
Pool and billiard parlors  
Waiting areas in transportation terminals

**A-4** - Assembly uses intended for viewing of indoor sporting events and activities with spectator seating including, but not limited to:

Arenas  
Skating Rinks  
Swimming Pools  
Tennis Courts

**A-5** - Assembly uses intended for participation in or viewing outdoor activities including, but not limited to:

Amusement Park Structures  
Bleachers  
Grandstands  
Stadiums

**B** - Office, Professional or Service-Type transactions, including Storage of Records and Accounts. Business occupancies shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

Airport traffic control towers  
*Ambulatory care facilities*  
Animal hospitals, kennels and pounds  
Banks  
Barber and beauty shops  
Car wash  
Civic administration  
*Clinic, outpatient*  
Dry cleaning and laundries: pick-up and delivery stations and self-service  
Educational occupancies for students above the 12th grade  
Electronic data processing  
Laboratories: testing and research  
Motor vehicle showrooms  
Post offices  
Print shops  
Professional services (architects, attorneys, dentists, physicians, engineers, etc.)  
Radio and television stations  
Telephone exchanges  
Training and skill development not within a school or academic program

**E** - Educational Group E occupancy includes, among others, the use of a building or structure, or a portion thereof, by six or more persons at any one time for educational purposes through the 12th grade. Religious educational rooms and religious auditoriums, which are accessory to *places of religious worship* in accordance with Section 303.1.4 and have *occupant loads* of less than 100, shall be classified as Group A-3 occupancies.

**Day care facilities.** This group includes buildings and structures or portions thereof occupied by more than five children older than 2 1/2 years of age who receive educational, supervision or *personal care services* for fewer than 24 hours per day.

**F-1** - Moderate-Hazard and shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

Aircraft (manufacturing, not to include repair)  
Appliances  
Athletic equipment  
Automobiles and other motor vehicles  
Bakeries  
Beverages: over 16-percent alcohol content  
Bicycles  
Boats  
Brooms or brushes  
Business machines  
Cameras and photo equipment  
Canvas or similar fabric  
Carpets and rugs (includes cleaning)  
Clothing  
Construction and agricultural machinery  
Disinfectants  
Dry cleaning and dyeing  
Electric generation plants  
Electronics

Engines (including rebuilding)  
Food processing and commercial kitchens not associated with restaurants, cafeterias and similar dining facilities  
Furniture  
Hemp products  
Jute products  
Laundries  
Leather products  
Machinery  
Metals  
Millwork (sash and door)  
Motion pictures and television filming (without spectators)  
Musical instruments  
Optical goods  
Paper mills or products  
Photographic film  
Plastic products  
Printing or publishing  
Recreational vehicles  
Refuse incineration  
Shoes  
Soaps and detergents  
Textiles  
Tobacco  
Trailers  
Upholstering  
Wood; distillation  
Woodworking (cabinet)

**F-2** - Low-Hazard shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

Beverages: up to and including 16-percent alcohol content  
Brick and masonry  
Ceramic products  
Foundries  
Glass products  
Gypsum  
Ice  
Metal products (fabrication and assembly)

**High-hazard Group H.** High-hazard Group H occupancy includes, among others, the use of a building or structure, or a portion thereof, that involves the manufacturing, processing, generation or storage of materials that constitute a physical or health hazard in quantities in excess of those allowed in *control areas*...

**H-1** - Contains materials that present a detonation hazard.

**H-2** - Contains materials that present a deflagration hazard or a hazard from accelerated burning.

**H-3** - Contains materials that readily support combustion or present a physical hazard.

**H-4** - Contains materials that are health hazards.

**H-5** - Semiconductor fabrication facilities and comparable research and development areas in which hazardous production materials (HPM) are used and the aggregate quantity of materials is in excess of those listed in Tables 307.7(1) and 307.7(2).

**I-1** - Housing more than 16 persons, on a 24-hour basis, who because of age, mental disability or other reasons, live in a supervised residential environment that provides personal care services. This group shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

Alcohol and drug centers  
Assisted living facilities  
Congregate care facilities  
Convalescent facilities  
*Group homes*  
Halfway houses

Residential board and *custodial care* facilities  
Social rehabilitation facilities

**I-2** - Medical, surgical, psychiatric, nursing or custodial care on a 24-hour basis of more than five persons who are not capable of self-preservation. This group shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

Foster care facilities  
Detoxification facilities  
Hospitals  
Nursing homes  
Psychiatric hospitals

**I-3** - Inhabited by more than five persons who are under restraint or security. An I-3 facility is occupied by persons who are generally incapable of self-preservation due to security measures not under the occupants' control. This group shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

Correctional centers  
Detention centers  
Jails  
Prerelease centers  
Prisons  
Reformatories

**I-4** - occupied by more than five persons of any age who receive *custodial care* for fewer than 24 hours per day by persons other than parents or guardians, relatives by blood, marriage or adoption, and in a place other than the home of the person cared for. This group shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

Adult day care  
Child day care

**M** - Display and sale of merchandise, and involves stocks of goods, wares or merchandise incidental to such purposes and accessible to the public. Mercantile occupancies shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

Department stores  
Drug stores  
Markets  
Motor fuel-dispensing facilities  
Retail or wholesale stores  
Sales rooms

**R-1** - Residential occupancies where the occupants are primarily transient in nature, including:

Boarding houses (transient) with more than 10 occupants  
Congregate living facilities (transient) with more than 10 occupants  
Hotels (transient)  
Motels (transient)

**R-2** - Residential occupancies containing sleeping units or more than two dwelling units where the occupants are primarily permanent in nature, including:

Apartment houses  
Boarding houses (non-transient) with more than 16 occupants  
Congregate living facilities (non-transient) with more than 16 occupants  
Convents  
Dormitories  
Fraternities and sororities  
Hotels (non-transient)  
Live/work units  
Monasteries  
Motels (non-transient)  
Vacation timeshare properties

**R-3** - Residential occupancies where the occupants are primarily permanent in nature and not classified as Group R-1, R-2, R-4 or I, including:

Buildings that do not contain more than two *dwelling units*  
*Boarding houses* (non-transient) with 16 or fewer occupants  
*Boarding houses* (*transient*) with 10 or fewer occupants  
Care facilities that provide accommodations for five or fewer persons receiving care  
*Congregate living facilities* (non-transient) with 16 or fewer occupants  
*Congregate living facilities* (*transient*) with 10 or fewer Occupants

**R-4** - This occupancy shall include buildings, structures or portions thereof for more than five but not more than 16 persons, excluding staff, who reside on a 24-hour basis in a supervised residential environment and receive custodial care. The persons receiving care are capable of self-preservation. This group shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

Alcohol and drug centers  
Assisted living facilities  
Congregate care facilities  
Convalescent facilities  
Group homes  
Halfway houses  
Residential board and custodial care facilities  
Social rehabilitation facilities

**S-1** - Buildings occupied for storage uses which are not classified as Group S-2 including, but not limited to, storage of the following:

Aerosols, Levels 2 and 3  
Aircraft hangar (storage and repair)  
Bags: cloth, burlap and paper  
Bamboos and rattan  
Baskets  
Belting: canvas and leather  
Books and paper in rolls or packs  
Boots and shoes  
Buttons, including cloth covered, pearl or bone  
Cardboard and cardboard boxes  
Clothing, woolen wearing apparel  
Cordage  
Dry boat storage (indoor)  
Furniture  
Furs  
Glues, mucilage, pastes and size  
Grains  
Horns and combs, other than celluloid  
Leather  
Linoleum  
Lumber  
Motor vehicle repair garages complying with the maximum allowable quantities of hazardous materials listed in Table 307.1(1) (see Section 406.8)  
Photo engravings  
Resilient flooring  
Silks  
Soaps  
Sugar  
Tires, bulk storage of  
Tobacco, cigars, cigarettes and snuff  
Upholstery and mattresses  
Wax candles

**S-2** - buildings used for the storage of noncombustible materials such as products on wood pallets or in paper cartons with or without single thickness divisions; or in paper wrappings. Such products are permitted to have a negligible amount of plastic trim, such as knobs, handles or film wrapping. Group S-2 storage uses shall include, but not be limited to, storage of the following:

- Asbestos
- Beverages up to and including 16-percent alcohol in metal, glass or ceramic containers
- Cement in bags
- Chalk and crayons
- Dairy products in non-waxed coated paper containers
- Dry cell batteries
- Electrical coils
- Electrical motors
- Empty cans
- Food products
- Foods in noncombustible containers
- Fresh fruits and vegetables in non-plastic trays or containers
- Frozen foods
- Glass
- Glass bottles, empty or filled with noncombustible liquids
- Gypsum board
- Inert pigments
- Ivory
- Meats
- Metal cabinets
- Metal desks with plastic tops and trim
- Metal parts
- Metals
- Mirrors
- Oil-filled and other types of distribution transformers
- Parking garages, open or enclosed
- Porcelain and pottery
- Stoves
- Talc and soap stones
- Washers and dryers

**U**- Buildings and structures of an accessory character and miscellaneous structures not classified in any specific occupancy shall be constructed, equipped and maintained to conform to the requirements of this code commensurate with the fire and life hazard incidental to their occupancy. Group U shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Agricultural buildings
- Aircraft hangars, accessory to a one- or two-family residence (see Section 412.5)
- Barns
- Carports
- Fences more than 6 feet (1829 mm) in height
- Grain silos, accessory to a residential occupancy
- Greenhouses
- Livestock shelters
- Private garages
- Retaining walls
- Sheds
- Stables
- Tanks
- Towers