

# PART **3**

## Fire Protection

### Chapters 7 through 9

- Chapter 7 Fire and Smoke Protection Features
- Chapter 8 Interior Finishes
- Chapter 9 Fire Protection and Life Safety Systems

The fire protection provisions of the *Florida Building Code, Building* (FBCB) are found primarily in Chapters 7 through 9. There are two general categories of fire protection: active and passive. Chapter 7 details the use of fire and smoke resistance to protect building elements in a passive manner. Chapter 9 contains requirements for various active systems often utilized in the creation of a safe building environment, including automatic sprinkler systems, standpipe systems and fire alarm systems. To further address the rapid spread of fire, the provisions of Chapter 8 are intended to regulate interior finish materials, such as wall and floor coverings. ■

**704.6.1**  
Secondary Attachments and Fireproofing

**TABLE 705.5**  
Exterior Wall Ratings

**707.4, 716**  
Separations of Energy Storage Systems

**707.5**  
Enclosure of Exit Passageways

**708.1, 708.4.1**  
Supporting Construction for Fire Partitions

**709.4.1**  
Smoke Barrier Continuity

**710.5.2.1, 710.5.3**  
Smoke Partition Openings

**713.12**  
Top of Shaft Enclosure

**715**  
Protection of Joints and Voids

**716.2.2.1.1**  
Prohibited Use of Terminated Stops

**TABLE 716.5**  
Doors in Double Fire Walls

**717.2.3, 717.6.2.1**  
Static Dampers

**717.5.2**  
Flex Connectors

**806.9**  
Combustible Lockers as Interior Finish



**903.3.1.2.2**

Corridor and Balcony Sprinklers

**907.2.25**

Manual Alarms in Group S Buildings

**907.5.2.1.3**

Fire Alarm Occupant Notification

**909.20**

Smokeproof Enclosures

**CHANGE TYPE:** Modification

**CHANGE SUMMARY:** Guidance has been provided to ensure continuity of fire-resistive protection where secondary steel attaches to any additional structural steel members having direct connection to the primary structural frame or primary fire-resistance-rated structural members.

**2023 CODE TEXT:** **704.6.1 Secondary attachments to structural members.** Where primary and secondary structural steel members require fire protection, any additional structural steel members having direct connection to the primary structural frame or secondary structural members shall be protected with the same fire resistive material and thickness as required for the structural member. The protection shall extend away from the structural member a distance of not less than 12 inches (305 mm), or shall be applied to the entire length where the attachment is less than 12 inches (305 mm) long. Where an attachment is hollow and the ends are open, the fire-resistive material and thickness shall be applied to both the exterior and interior of the hollow steel attachment.

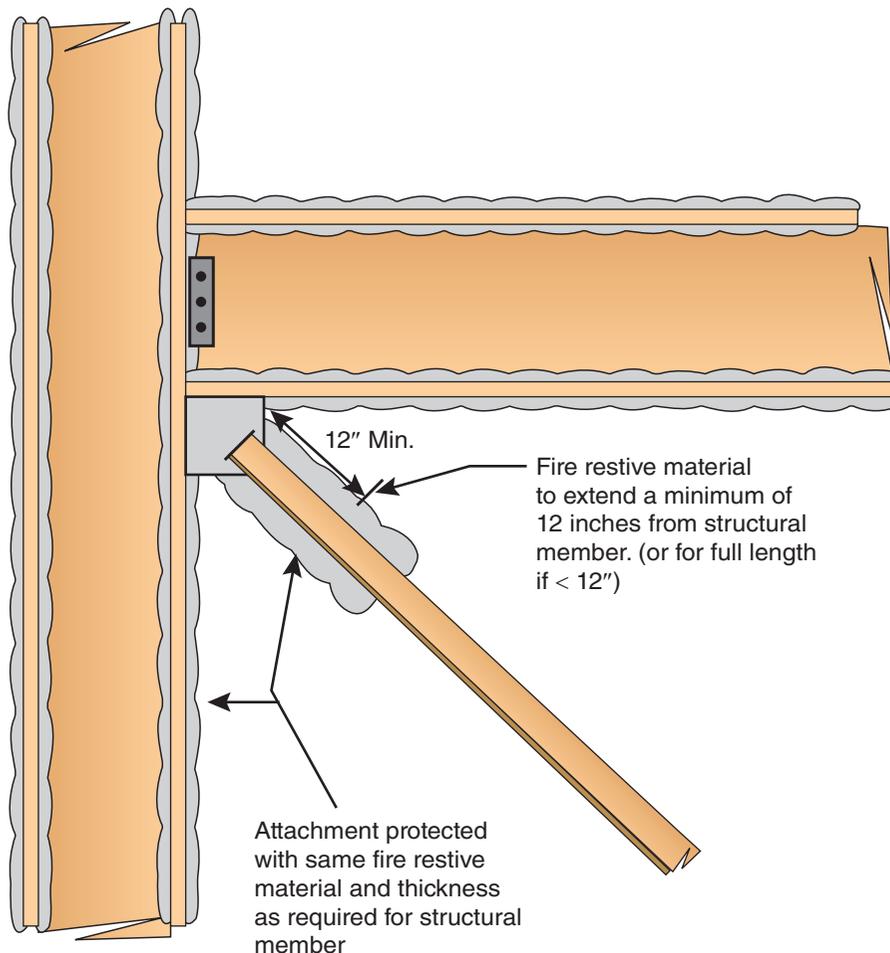
**CHANGE SIGNIFICANCE:** Structural frame members such as columns, beams and girders are typically regulated for fire resistance based on a

## 704.6.1

### Secondary Attachments and Fireproofing



Hollow attachment with open ends.  
(International Code Council)



Protection of secondary attachments.

building's type of construction. While Section 704.6 addressed protection for certain items that may be attached to a structural member, there was not enough detail to determine how the provisions would be applied to other elements. In many buildings, various items that do not require a fire-resistance rating end up being attached to structural elements that require protection. Examples of non-rated elements include lateral bracing elements for wind or seismic loads, or steel angles or tubes that are used to support an exterior curtainwall system. Where these nonrated and rated elements connect, the code has not clearly identified how much of the attached element needs to be protected. Where steel attachments connect to the structural system, heat transfer from the unprotected element into the structure can occur and compromise the fire-resistance rating of the member or assembly. Under this new provision, an attached steel element must be protected for a minimum distance of 12 inches from the point of contact with the structural member, or, if it is less than 12 inches long, then it must be protected for its entire length. This 12-inch dimension was selected because it has traditionally been used in the general notes portion of UL 263 (UL's *BXUV General Information for Fire-resistance Ratings*) and as a written policy of some jurisdictions.

One added aspect of this new provision addresses the protection of attached hollow members with open ends. Because heat can impact both the interior and exterior of a hollow member, the fire-resistive protection must be installed on both the interior and exterior of the attached element for the required 12-inch distance.

**CHANGE TYPE:** Modification

**CHANGE SUMMARY:** The previous Table 602 dealing with exterior wall fire-resistance ratings based on fire separation distance has been relocated to Section 705 for inclusion with the general exterior wall requirements.

## Table 705.5 Exterior Wall Ratings

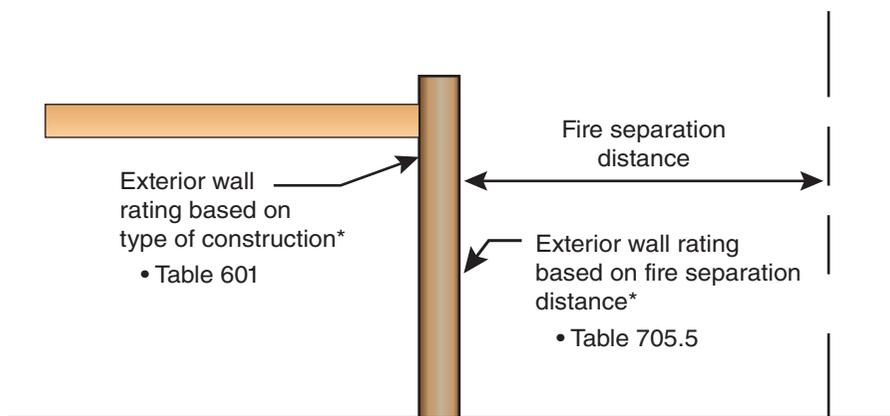
**2023 CODE TEXT: 705.5 Fire-resistance ratings.** Exterior walls shall be fire-resistance rated in accordance with ~~Tables Table 601, and 602 and this section~~ based on the type of construction, and Table 705.5 based on the fire separation distance. The required fire-resistance rating of exterior walls with a fire separation distance of greater than 10 feet (3048 mm) 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 (3048 mm) shall be rated for exposure to fire from both sides.

**TABLE-602 705.5** Fire-Resistance Rating Requirements for Exterior Walls Based on Fire Separation Distance<sup>a,d,g</sup>

Fire Separation Distance = X (feet)	Type of Construction	Occupancy Group H <sup>e</sup>	Occupancy Group F-1, M, S-1 <sup>f</sup>	Occupancy Group A, B, E, F-2, I, R, S-2, U <sup>h</sup>
X < 5 <sup>b</sup>	All	3	2	1
5 ≤ X < 10	IA	3	2	1
	Others	2	1	1
10 ≤ X < 30	IA, IB	2	1	1 <sup>c</sup>
	IIB, VB	1	0	0
	Others	1	1	1 <sup>c</sup>
X ≥ 30	All	0	0	0

For SI: 1 foot = 304.8 mm.

*(No change to footnotes)*



\*Exterior wall wall rating based on both Table 601 and Table 705.5

Rating of exterior wall.

**CHANGE SIGNIFICANCE:** Table 602 from previous editions of the FBCB has been relocated to Section 705 that addresses exterior walls. This table regulates fire-resistance ratings for exterior walls based on the fire separation distance for each wall. Relocating the table was deemed appropriate because Section 705 is the primary location for establishing exterior wall requirements. The move from Chapter 6 to Chapter 7 will not create any technical changes or result in any change of application.