

Part 9.3 Fire protection of separating walls and floors

9.3.1 Separating walls

[2019: 3.7.3.2]

- (1) A *separating wall* between Class 1 buildings, or a wall that separates a Class 1 building from a Class 10a building which is not associated with the Class 1 building must—
 - (a) be constructed—
 - (i) having an FRL of not less than 60/60/60; or
 - (ii) of masonry not less than 90 mm thick; and
 - (b) commence at the footings or ground slab (see Figure 9.3.1a), except for horizontal projections to which 9.3.4 applies (see Figure 9.3.4); and
 - (c) extend—
 - (i) if the building has a *non-combustible* roof covering, to the underside of the roof covering (see Figure 9.3.1a and Figure 9.3.1b); or
 - (ii) if the building has a *combustible* roof covering, to not less than 450 mm above the roof covering (see Figure 9.3.1a); and
 - (d) comply with (2) to (5) and 9.3.2 as applicable.
- (2) A *separating wall of lightweight construction* must be tested in accordance with Specification 6.
- (3) A *separating wall* complying with (1)(c)(i)—
 - (a) must not be crossed by timber or other *combustible* building elements except for roof battens with dimensions of 75 x 50 mm or less, or roof sarking; and
 - (b) must have any gap between the top of the wall and the underside of the roof covering packed with mineral fibre or other suitable *fire-resisting* material.
- (4) Where a building has a masonry veneer *external wall*, any gap between the *separating wall* and the external masonry veneer must be—
 - (a) not more than 50 mm; and
 - (b) packed with a mineral fibre or other suitable *fire-resisting* material with the packing arranged to maintain any weatherproofing requirements of H2D4.
- (5) Eaves, verandahs and similar spaces that are open to the roof space and are common to more than one Class 1 dwelling must be separated by a *non-combustible* vertical lining (see Figure 9.3.1c).

Figure 9.3.1a: Separating wall construction

