

2021 Virginia Construction Code

CHAPTER 6 TYPES OF CONSTRUCTION

SECTION 601 GENERAL

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

BUILDING ELEMENT	TYPE I		TYPE II		TYPE III		TYPE IV					TYPE V	
	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	C	HT	A	B	
Primary structural frame ^f (see Section 202)	3 ^{a, b}	2 ^{a, c}	1 ^{b, c}	0	1 ^{b, c}	0	3 ^a	2	2		HT	1 ^{b, c}	0
Bearing walls													
Exterior ^{e, f}	3	2	1	0	2	2	3	2	2		2	1	0
Interior	3 ^a	2 ^a	1	0	1	0	3	2	2		1/HT ^g	1	0
Nonbearing walls and partitions Exterior	See Table 705.5												
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} ₂	1	1		HT	1 ^{b, c}	0

For SI: 1 foot = 304.8 mm.

- Roof supports: Fire-resistance ratings of primary structural frame and bearing walls are permitted to be reduced by 1 hour where supporting a roof only.
- Except in Group F-1, H, M and S-1 occupancies, fire protection of structural members in roof construction shall not be required, including protection of primary structural frame members, roof framing and decking where every part of the roof construction is 20 feet or more above any floor immediately below. Fire-retardant-treated wood members shall be allowed to be used for such unprotected members.
- In all occupancies, heavy timber complying with [Section 2304.11](#) shall be allowed for roof construction, including primary structural frame members, where a 1-hour or less fire-resistance rating is required.
- Not less than the fire-resistance rating required by other sections of this code.
- Not less than the fire-resistance rating based on fire separation distance (see [Table 705.5](#)).
- Not less than the fire-resistance rating as referenced in [Section 704.10](#).
- Heavy timber bearing walls supporting more than two floors or more than a floor and a roof shall have a fire resistance rating of not less than 1 hour.

601.1 Scope.

The provisions of this chapter shall control the classification of buildings as to type of construction.

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