

between concealed vertical and horizontal spaces such as occur at soffits, drop ceilings, cove ceilings and similar locations.

**717.2.4 Stairways.** Fireblocking shall be provided in concealed spaces between *stair* stringers at the top and bottom of the run. Enclosed spaces under *stairs* shall also comply with Section 1009.6.3.

**717.2.5 Ceiling and floor openings.** Where required by Exception 6 of Section 708.2, Exception 1 of Section 713.4.1.2 or Section 713.4.2, fireblocking of the *annular space* around vents, pipes, ducts, chimneys and fireplaces at ceilings and floor levels shall be installed with a material specifically tested in the form and manner intended for use to demonstrate its ability to remain in place and resist the free passage of flame and the products of combustion.

**717.2.5.1 Factory-built chimneys and fireplaces.** Factory-built chimneys and fireplaces shall be fireblocked in accordance with UL 103 and UL 127.

**717.2.6 Architectural trim.** Fireblocking shall be installed within concealed spaces of *exterior wall* finish and other exterior architectural elements where permitted to be of combustible construction as specified in Section 1406 or where erected with combustible frames, at maximum intervals of 20 feet (6096 mm), so that there will be no open space exceeding 100 square feet (9.3 m<sup>2</sup>). Where wood furring strips are used, they shall be of *approved* wood of natural decay resistance or *preservative-treated wood*. If noncontinuous, such elements shall have closed ends, with at least 4 inches (102 mm) of separation between sections.

**Exceptions:**

1. Fireblocking of cornices is not required in single-family *dwelling*s. Fireblocking of cornices of a two-family *dwelling* is required only at the line of *dwelling unit* separation.
2. Fireblocking shall not be required where installed on noncombustible framing and the face of the *exterior wall* finish exposed to the concealed space is covered by one of the following materials:
  - 2.1. Aluminum having a minimum thickness of 0.019 inch (0.5 mm).
  - 2.2. Corrosion-resistant steel having a base metal thickness not less than 0.016 inch (0.4 mm) at any point.
  - 2.3. Other *approved* noncombustible materials.

**717.2.7 Concealed sleeper spaces.** Where wood sleepers are used for laying wood flooring on masonry or concrete fire-resistance-rated floors, the space between the floor slab and the underside of the wood flooring shall be filled with an *approved* material to resist the free passage of flame and products of combustion or fireblocked in such a manner that there will be no open spaces under the flooring that will exceed 100 square feet (9.3 m<sup>2</sup>) in area and such space shall be filled solidly under permanent partitions so that there is no communication under the flooring between adjoining rooms.

**Exceptions:**

1. Fireblocking is not required for slab-on-grade floors in gymnasiums.
2. Fireblocking is required only at the juncture of each alternate lane and at the ends of each lane in a bowling facility.