A-1 Occupancy

Assembly uses, usually with fixed seating, intended for the production and viewing of the performing arts or motion pictures.

- See Section 202 for definition of "Story above Grade Plane" and Section 502 for definition of "Building Height."
- See Section 504.2 for permitted height and story increases in a building protected by an automatic sprinkler system (not applicable for Groups H-1, H-2, H-3, H-5 and I-2 of Types IIB, III, IV and V construction).
- See Section 505 for buildings containing mezzanines.
- Area indicated is basic allowable for buildings one story in height per Table 503. See Sections 506.4 and 506.5 for allowable areas of buildings more than one story in height.
- See Section 506.2 for allowable area increases for adequate frontage.
- In fully sprinklered buildings, see Section 506.3 for area increases (not applicable for Groups H-1, H-2 and H-3).
- See Sections 506.4 and 506.5 for allowable area limitations for basements.
- For allowable area of mixed-occupancy buildings, see Sections 506.5, 508.2.3, 508.3.2 and 508.4.2.
- Fire walls are to be constructed in accordance with Section 706. See Section 706.1.1 for party walls.
- Based on Table 602, non bearing exterior walls having a fire separation distance of at least 30 feet do not require a fire-resistance rating.
- See Section 705.5 for fire-resistance-rated construction requirements for exterior walls when considering fire separation distance.
- For protection of projections from exterior walls, see Sections 705.2 and 1406.3. For parapet requirements, see Section 705.11.
- For exterior wall requirements for buildings on the same lot, see Section 705.3.
- In Type I buildings, the fire-resistance ratings of the primary structural frame and interior bearing walls are permitted to be reduced by 1-hour when the frame/walls support a roof only (see Note a, Table 601).
- 15. In other than Type IV construction, interior nonbearing walls and partitions require no fire-resistance rating per Table 601. For interior nonbearing partitions in Type IV construction, see Section 602.4.6.
- For use of combustible material in Type I and II construction, see Section 603.1.
- Reductions in the minimum construction types in high-rise buildings are permitted for Type IA and IB buildings (other than Groups F-1, M and S-1) as set forth in Section 403.2.1.1.
- Fire protection of roof structural members shall not be required, including protection of roof framing and decking, where every part of the roof construction is 20 feet or more above any floor immediately below (excludes Groups F-1, H, M and S-1). Fire-retardant-treated wood members shall be permitted to be used for such unprotected members (see Note b, Table 601).
- Heavy timber shall be permitted where 1-hour or less fire-resistant construction is required (see Note c, Table 601).
- In Type I and II construction, fire-retardant-treatd wood shall be permitted as part of the roof system, except in Type I buildings greater than two stories with the uppermost story less than 20 feet in height (see Section 603.1, #25.3).
- See Table 1505.1, Note c, for roof coverings of wood shakes or shingles.
- See Section 708.4 for shaft enclosure fire-resistance requirements. For exceptions to shaft enclosure provisions, see Section 708.2.
For buildings not greater than 420 feet in height, the required rating of shaft enclosures in high-rise buildings (other than exit enclosures and elevator hoistways) may be reduced to 1-hour (see Section 403.2.1.2).

A shaft enclosure is not required in fully sprinklered buildings at openings for escalators and nonrequired stairways meeting specified conditions (see Section 708.2, Exception 2).

In other than Group I-2 and I-3 occupancies, a shaft enclosure is not required for openings that comply with the seven conditions of Exception 7 to Section 708.2.

See Table 803.9 for interior wall and ceiling finish requirements. For floor finishes, see Section 804.

In buildings fewer than three stories in height, Class B interior finishes are permitted in exit enclosures of nonsprinklered buildings and Class C for sprinklered buildings. (See Table 803.9, Note a). See Table 508.2.5 for separation of incidental accessory occupancies. In mixed-occupancy buildings regulated as nonseparated occupancies, the most restrictive type of construction shall apply to the entire building (see Section 508.3.1).

In a mixed-occupancy building where the provisions of Section 508.4 for separated occupancies are utilized, the occupancies shall be separated in accordance with Table 508.4.

Where a fire wall also separates occupancies that are required to be separated by a fire barrier, the most restrictive requirements of each separation shall apply (see Section 706.1).

See Table 715.4 for opening protective fire-protection ratings.

The maximum allowable area of unprotected openings in buildings (other than Group H-1, H-2 and H-3 occupancies) equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system (“UP, S”) is equivalent to that allowed for protected openings. (see Table 705.8)

For the maximum area of unprotected and protect openings located in an exterior wall, use Equation 7-2 from Section 705.8.4. See Section 705.8.1, Exception 2 for permitted unlimited unprotected openings in buildings whose exterior walls and exterior primary structural frame are not required to be fire-resistance rated. Where dividing a building into multiple fire areas so as not to exceed the limits of Section 903.2 for required sprinkler systems, see Sections 707.3.9 and 901.7.

See Section 907.2.1 for fire alarm and detection systems in Group A occupancies with an occupant load of 300 or more. See special provisions of Section 907.2.1.1 where the occupant load is greater than 1,000.

For special conditions for structures with a Group A, B, I, M or R occupancy above a Group S-2 open parking garage, see Section 509.7.

Interior wall and ceiling finishes in lobbies of Group A-1, A-2 and A-3 occupancies shall not be less than Class B (see Note d, Table 803.9).

In nonsprinklered Group A-1 and A-2 occupancies, Class C wall and ceiling finishes are permitted where the occupant load is 300 or fewer (see Note e, Table 803.9).

See Section 507.3.1, for Group A-1 and A-2 occupancies located in an unlimited area building of Group B, F, M or S.

Where an automatic sprinkler system is required by the provisions of Section 903.2.1, the floor with the Group A occupancy (other than Group A-5) and the floors to and including the nearest level of exit discharge shall be sprinklered (see Section 903.2.1).

An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided for Group A-1, A-3 and A-4 occupancies (see Sections 903.2.1.1, 903.2.1.3 and 903.2.1.4) where one of the following conditions exists:
  * The fire area exceeds 12,000 square feet.
  * The fire area has an occupant load of 300 or more.
  * The fire area is located on a floor other than the level of exit discharge.

An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided in all fire areas containing a Group A-1 multi-theater complex (see Section 903.2.1.1).

For unlimited areas of motion picture theaters, see Section 507.11.
For fire-extinguishing system requirements for a stage, see Section 410.6.

See Section 410.5.1 for separation requirements between a stage and its accessory dressing rooms, workshops, etc.

In other than Group R-3 and U occupancies, an automatic sprinkler system shall be provided on windowless stories as set forth in Section 903.2.11.1.

An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in all buildings with a floor level having an occupant load of 30 or more located 55 feet or more above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access (see Section 903.2.11.3). See exceptions for airport control towers, open parking garages and Group F-2 occupancies.

Shaft rating is generally not applicable due to permitted number of stories.

Because a story height increase (see Section 504.2) or a basement (see Section 506.4 or 506.5) will change the permitted number of stories, the shaft rating may be applicable.