

# CHAPTER 7 WALL COVERING

TABLE R703.4  
IRC Interpretation No. 27-04  
2003 Edition  
Issued: 10-22-04

**R703.4 Attachments.** Unless specified otherwise, all wall coverings shall be securely fastened in accordance with Table R703.4 or with other approved aluminum, stainless steel, zinc-coated or other approved corrosion-resistive fasteners.

Table R703.4 not shown

**REFERENCE IRC SECTION:**

**SECTION R604  
WOOD STRUCTURAL PANELS**

R604.1 Identification and grade. Wood structural panels shall conform to DOC PS 1 or DOC PS 2. All panels shall be identified by a grademark or certificate of inspection issued by an approved agency.

R604.2 Allowable spans. The maximum allowable spans for wood structural panel wall sheathing shall not exceed the values set forth in Table R602.3(3).

R604.3 Installation. Wood structural panel wall sheathing shall be attached to framing in accordance with Table R602.3(1). Wood structural panels marked Exposure 1 or Exterior are considered water-repellent sheathing under the code.

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**Q:** Table R703.4 of the *International Residential Code* permits the use of plywood panels (exterior grade) as nonstructural weather-resistant exterior siding. Is a grade mark required on nonstructural plywood panel (exterior grade) siding?

**A:** Yes. The IRC is a prescriptive code and does not differentiate between non-structural and structural use for plywood in walls and partitions. All wood structural panels in walls and partitions must comply with Section R604 which states they shall conform to DOC PS 1 or DOC PS 2 and shall be identified by a grade mark or certificate issued by an approved agency.

