

CHAPTER 6 WALL CONSTRUCTION

SECTION R602.10
IRC Interpretation No. 73-05
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R602.10 Wall bracing. All exterior walls shall be braced in accordance with this section. In addition, interior braced wall lines shall be provided in accordance with Section R602.10.1.1. For buildings in Seismic Design Categories D₁ and D₂, walls shall be constructed in accordance with the additional requirements of R602.10.9, R602.10.11 and R602.11.

REFERENCED CODE SECTION:

R301.1 Design. Buildings and structures, and all parts thereof, shall be constructed to safely support all loads, including dead loads, live loads, roof loads, flood loads, snow loads, wind loads and seismic loads as prescribed by this code. The construction of buildings and structures shall result in a system that provides a complete load path capable of transferring all loads from their point of origin through the load-resisting elements to the foundation.



Q: Are all exterior wall lines required to be braced wall lines?

A: Yes. The *International Residential Code* is prescriptive. The provisions in Section R602.10 are prescriptive requirements which requires all exterior walls to be braced in accordance with this section. All exterior walls must be constructed to include bracing that will resist the lateral loads resulting from wind or seismic forces, and to provide stability to the structure. The bracing must provide a complete path capable of transferring the loads from their point of origin through the load-resisting elements to the foundation.
