

## CHAPTER 7 FIRE-RESISTANCE-RATED CONSTRUCTION

SECTION 713.1  
2006 Edition

### IBC Interpretation 34-08 Issued 2-20-2009

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**713.1 General.** Joints installed in or between fire-resistance-rated walls, floor or floor/ceiling assemblies and roofs or roof/ceiling assemblies shall be protected by an approved fire-resistant joint system designed to resist the passage of fire for a time period not less than the required fire-resistance rating of the wall, floor or roof in or between which it is installed. Fire-resistant joint systems shall be tested in accordance with Section 713.3. The void created at the intersection of a floor/ceiling assembly and an exterior curtain wall assembly shall be protected in accordance with Section 713.4.

**Exception:** Fire-resistant joint systems shall not be required for joints in all of the following locations:

1. Floors within a single dwelling unit.
2. Floors where the joint is protected by a shaft enclosure in accordance with Section 707.
3. Floors within atriums where the space adjacent to the atrium is included in the volume of the atrium for smoke control purposes.
4. Floors within malls.
5. Floors within open parking structures.
6. Mezzanine floors.
7. Walls that are permitted to have unprotected openings.
8. Roofs where openings are permitted.
9. Control joints not exceeding a maximum width of 0.625 inch (15.9 mm) and tested in accordance with ASTM E 119.



**Q:** Do the provisions of Section 713.1 of the *International Building Code* apply to a joint that occurs between a fire-resistance-rated assembly and a non-fire-resistance-rated assembly, such as where a fire-resistance-rated wall assembly terminates at the underside of a non-fire-resistance-rated roof assembly?

**A:** No. The provisions of Section 713.1 of the *International Building Code* are not applicable to the joint between a fire-resistance-rated assembly and a non-fire-resistance-rated assembly. The applicable code requirements for this type of intersection are contained in the provisions regarding continuity of the specific building element under consideration.