



References (s):

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All buildings are built with a pre-established construction type which is typically identified in construction documents such as a code footprint. The construction type is determined as part of the original planning of the building. The architects and engineers establish the type of construction necessary to meet the expected use of the building.

Facilities do not need to be experts in the construction itself. However, it is critical that facilities know and understand the construction type of the building that they occupy in order to effectively maintain the building or to properly conduct basic renovations.

## **CONSTRUCTION TYPE OVERVIEW**

Type I is least combustible and Type V is most combustible.

A = The building elements (structural frame, bearing walls, floors and roofs) are required to have a fire resistive rating. *Example: Steel beams with a 2-hr spray-on fire protective coating*

B = The building elements are not required to be fire resistance rated.

### **Type I**

Typically these are concrete frame buildings made of noncombustible materials. All of the building elements (structural frame, bearing walls, floors and roofs) are fire resistance rated.

### **Type II**

These buildings are constructed of noncombustible materials. Typically these are masonry bearing walls structures with steel studs for walls and steel bar joists for floor and roof structures.

### **Type III**

Construction in which the exterior walls are of noncombustible materials and the interior building elements can be combustible or non-combustible (depending upon code allowances).

This is typical of buildings with masonry bearing walls and wood roofs or floors.

### **Type IV**

This is Heavy Timber construction which is common in worship facilities.

### **Type V**

Typically wood frame construction.

**FIRE FACT 014 – CONSTRUCTION TYPE**