

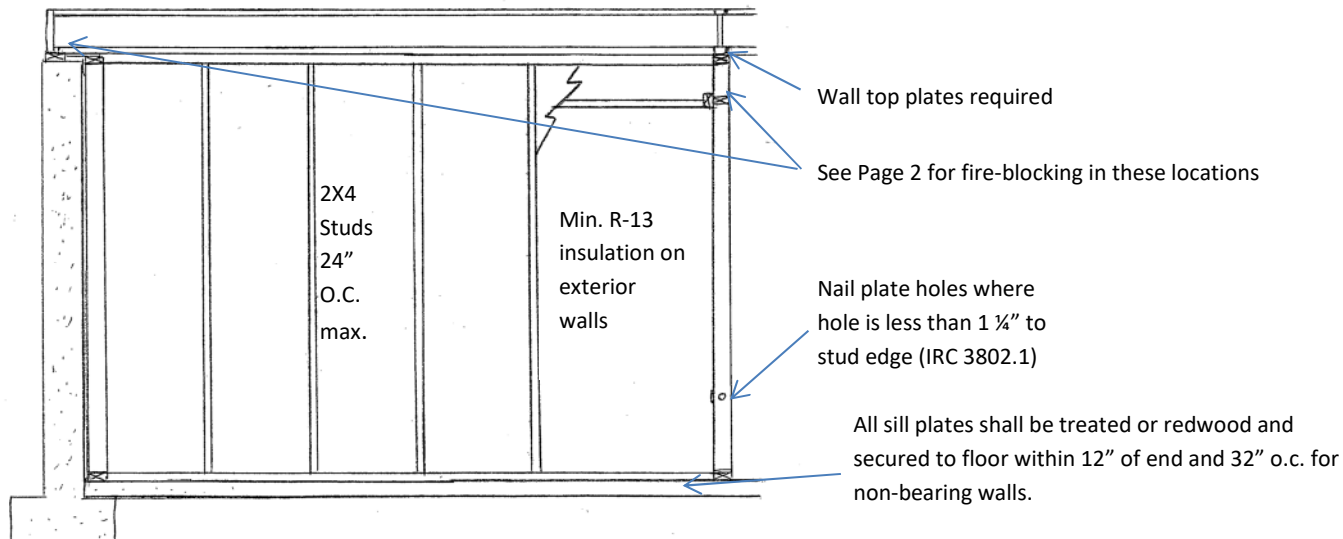


Basement Finish Permits

(Common code requirements only)

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS NEED TO BE SUBMITTED FOR A BASEMENT FINISH PERMIT:

- 1- Provide the total square feet to be finished.
- 2- Dimension & label the use of all rooms. Clearly identify what rooms are to be finished.
- 3- Minimum ceiling height of 7'. Surface mount lighting or other projections cannot encroach into the required minimum height.
- 4- Locations and sizes of doors and windows with window types. (i.e. slider, single hung, fixed)
- 5- Show emergency egress from bedrooms. (Window wells must be 36" in depth from the window) Window wells deeper than 44" shall be equipped with a permanently affixed. Ladders or rungs shall have an inside width of not less than 12 inches, shall project not less than 3 inches (76 mm) from the wall and shall be spaced not more than 18 inches (457 mm) on center vertically for the full height of the window well.
- 6- R-13 insulation at exterior walls. Walls between heated & unheated areas must be insulated.
- 7- Location of combustion air duct to the mechanical room. (Extend to mechanical room if not already done)
- 8- Bathroom exhaust fan vented to the outside, if openable window is not present.
- 9- If you will have any structural changes, provide framing plans and structural details.
- 10- Fire blocking shall be one of the following: Minimum $\frac{3}{4}$ " wood, $\frac{1}{2}$ " sheetrock, or unfaced insulation filling the cavity and secured to stop the passage of fire.
- 11- All receptacles to be tamper resistant type.
- 12- Provide a dedicated 20A circuit to bathrooms, bathroom receptacle to be GFCI protected.
- 13- Receptacles are req. on all wall spaces 2' or larger, within 6' of openings, and then every 12' max.
- 14- Battery backed-up 120v interconnected smoke detectors are required in every bedroom and in the hallway(s) leading to the bedrooms.
- 15- Provide one carbon monoxide detector or a combination smoke/carbon monoxide detector per floor.
- 16- Show the location of the electrical panel. (Cannot be located in a closet or bathroom)



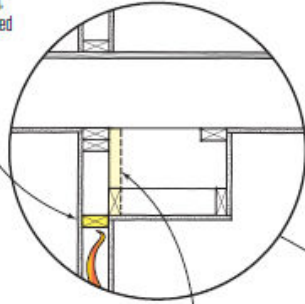
Updated 01/28/25

Typical Fire-Blocking Locations

Soffits

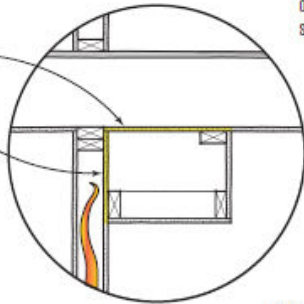
Without fire blocking, a soffit provides a path for fire to spread from a wall cavity to the joist bays above. Installing a single piece of material across the face of the studs is often faster than using individual blocks.

2x fire blocking typically installed in stud bays next to soffits



Optional 2x lumber or approved structural sheathing

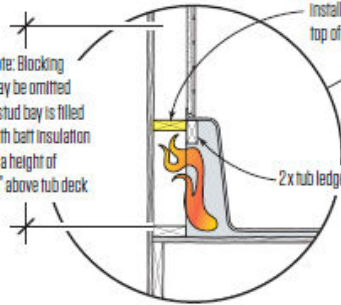
If drywall has been installed on the wall before the soffit is built, no additional fire blocking is needed



Tub Deck

Fire blocking is required in the stud bays around a drop-in tub.

Note: Blocking may be omitted if stud bay is filled with batt insulation to a height of 16" above tub deck

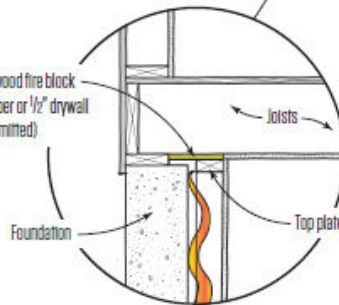


2x fire blocking installed in line with top of tub deck

Perimeter Basement Walls

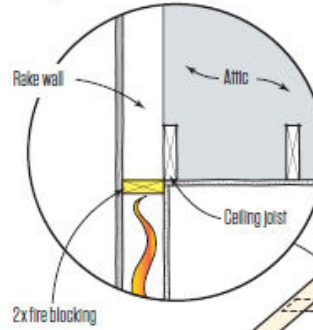
A space behind a 2x4 perimeter basement wall must be separated from the joist bays above.

3/4" plywood fire block (2x lumber or 1/2" drywall also permitted)



Balloon-Framed Rakes

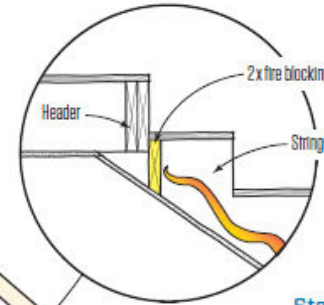
Full-height rake walls need fire blocks to separate the stud bays from the attic space above.



2x fire blocking

Stair Stringers

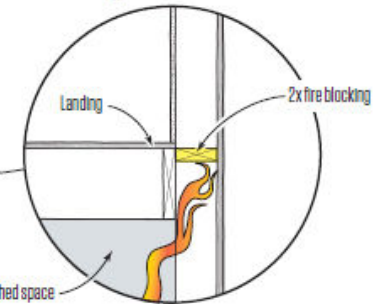
The space between stringers must be separated from the upper-story floor-joist bays.



2x fire blocking

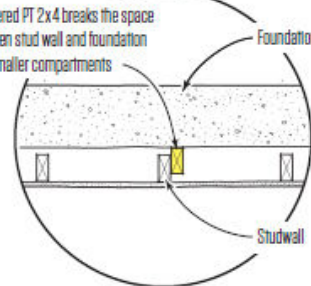
Stairway Landings

If the area underneath the landing is unfinished, the wall bays must be blocked.



Unfinished space

A sistered PT 2x4 breaks the space between stud wall and foundation into smaller compartments

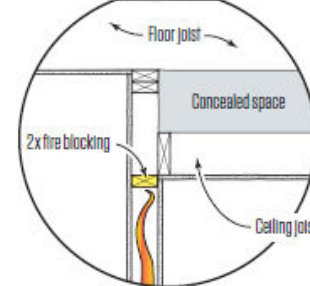


Foundation

Studwall

Concealed Spaces in Walls

When a wall is not drywalled or sheathed on both sides (which is typical of furred-out basement walls and double stud walls) there must be a full-height fire block every 10 feet horizontally.



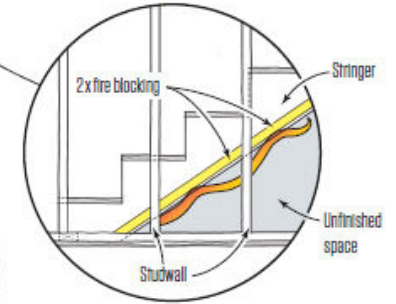
Floor joist

Concealed space

2x fire blocking

Dropped Ceilings

Dropped ceilings can be blocked in the same way as soffits.



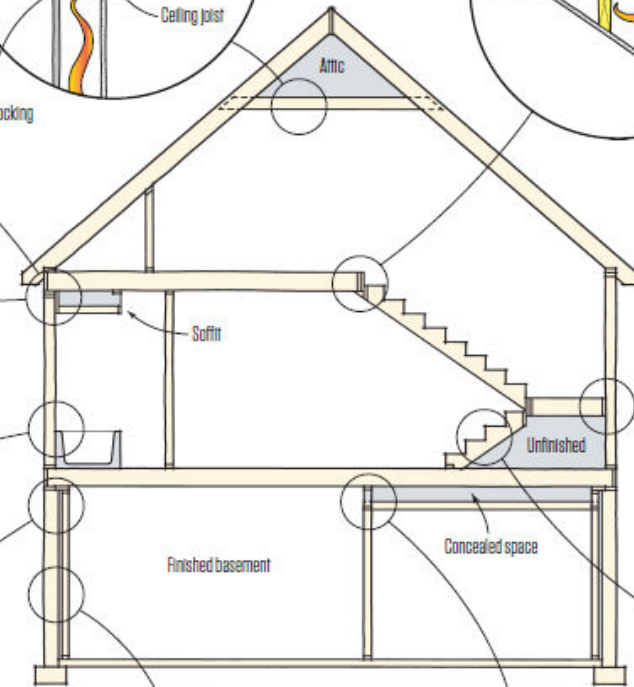
2x fire blocking

Stringer

Unfinished space

Stair Stringers

If the area below the stair is unfinished, fire blocks are required in the stud bays alongside the stringer. If the area beneath is finished with minimum 1/2" drywall, this blocking is typically not required.



Soffit

Unfinished

Concealed space

Finished basement

Foundation

Floor joist

Concealed space

2x fire blocking

2x fire blocking

Stringer

Unfinished space

Stair Stringers

If the area below the stair is unfinished, fire blocks are required in the stud bays alongside the stringer. If the area beneath is finished with minimum 1/2" drywall, this blocking is typically not required.