

SECTION**24.0.0 Fireplace Construction****24.1.0 Fireplace Walls**

Fireplaces shall be constructed with adjustable metal dampers and smoke chambers of proper size. Walls of fireplaces and smoke chambers shall be of masonry. Thickness shall be twelve inches (12"), except walls of solid, hard-burned brick may be eight inches (8") thick. Walls of smoke chambers equipped with metal lining bearing a label by the Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc. shall be eight inches (8") thick, or may be four inches (4") thick if of solid, hard-burned brick. Wall faces exposed to flames in fireplaces shall be lined with firebrick, cast iron or other fire-resistant material, and such lining may be included in the required thickness. Walls of fireplaces shall not be used for structural support of any part of the building except the chimney construction.

24.2.0 Hearth Construction

Hearths of fireplaces shall be of non-combustible construction, extending sixteen inches (16") beyond the front of and eight inches (8") beyond each side of the fireplace opening. Hearths shall not be supported by wood framing. Cantilevered hearth construction of reinforced concrete or corbelled brick masonry shall be six inches (6") thick. Combustible forms, or centering, shall not be left in place.

24.3.0 Ash Pits

Ash pits under fireplaces shall be constructed of masonry or concrete eight inches (8") thick, fitted with cast iron ash dumps and latched metal cleanout doors.

24.4.0 Fireplace Clearances

Clearance between combustible framing, sheathing or paneling and fireplace walls and hearths shall be two inches (2") and shall be filled with non-combustible insulation. Combustible finish or trim materials shall be set back eight inches (8") from both sides of and twelve inches (12") above the top of the fireplace opening.

24.5.0 Pre-Fabricated Fireplaces

No pre-fabricated fireplaces or pre-fabricated chimneys shall be permitted unless such pre-fabricated units bear the label of the Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc., or other recognized testing agencies acceptable to the Building Commissioner or Deputy Building Commissioner. Underwriters' Label approved units which are designed for use in frame construction and which do not exceed an exterior temperature above a recognized safe or hand-held temperature, shall be permitted. Also, free-standing units, such as "Franklin Stoves", located eighteen (18") or more away from non-combustible wall construction, will be permitted. No units shall be installed unless acceptable, both in design and construction, to the Building Commissioner or his Deputy before installation. Floors under all heating units shall be of non-combustible construction.