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MARKING & IDENTIFICATION

IBC FIRE-RESISTANCE RATINGS AND FIRE TESTS

Marking and identification of fire-resistance-rated assemblies and fire protection systems, as required by the International Building Code (IBC), ensure that critical life safety components are properly labeled for inspection, maintenance, and code compliance. These markings support verification of compliance during construction, inspections, and future renovations.

This is a quick reference to accessible concealed area marking and identification per the 2025 Building Code of NYS.

703.5 Marking and identification. Where there is an accessible concealed floor, floor-ceiling or attic space, fire walls, fire barriers, fire partitions, smoke barriers and smoke partitions or any other wall required to have protected openings or penetrations shall be effectively and permanently identified with signs or stenciling in the concealed space. Such identification shall:

1. Be located within 15 feet (4572 mm) of the end of each wall and at intervals not exceeding 30 feet (9144 mm) measured horizontally along the wall or partition.
2. Include lettering not less than 3 inches (76 mm) in height with a minimum 3/8-inch (9.5 mm) stroke in a contrasting color incorporating the suggested wording, “FIRE AND/OR SMOKE BARRIER—PROTECT ALL OPENINGS,” or other wording.

Examples of signage:



Figure 1 – Includes hour rating & additional information



Figure 2 – Verbiage per code

**FIRE AND SMOKE BARRIER
DO NOT PENETRATE**

Figure 3 – Stencil

This is not all inclusive of all fire and smoke protection features.