

410.3 Stages. An assembly occupancy considered among the most hazardous is a Group A-1 containing a large occupant load and a performance stage. The hazard created by the stage is the presence of combustibles in the form of hanging curtains, drops, leg drops, scenery, etc., which in the past have been the source of ignition for disastrous fires in theaters. Modern stages also have an increased hazard from special effects such as pyrotechnics, utilized in so-called *spectaculars*.

Where the stage height exceeds 50 feet (15,240 mm), the fire hazard is even greater because the fly area that is usually above the stage is a large blind space containing combustible materials that have a fuel load considerably greater than that normally associated with an assembly occupancy. Many of the construction requirements for stages are depicted in Figure 410-1.

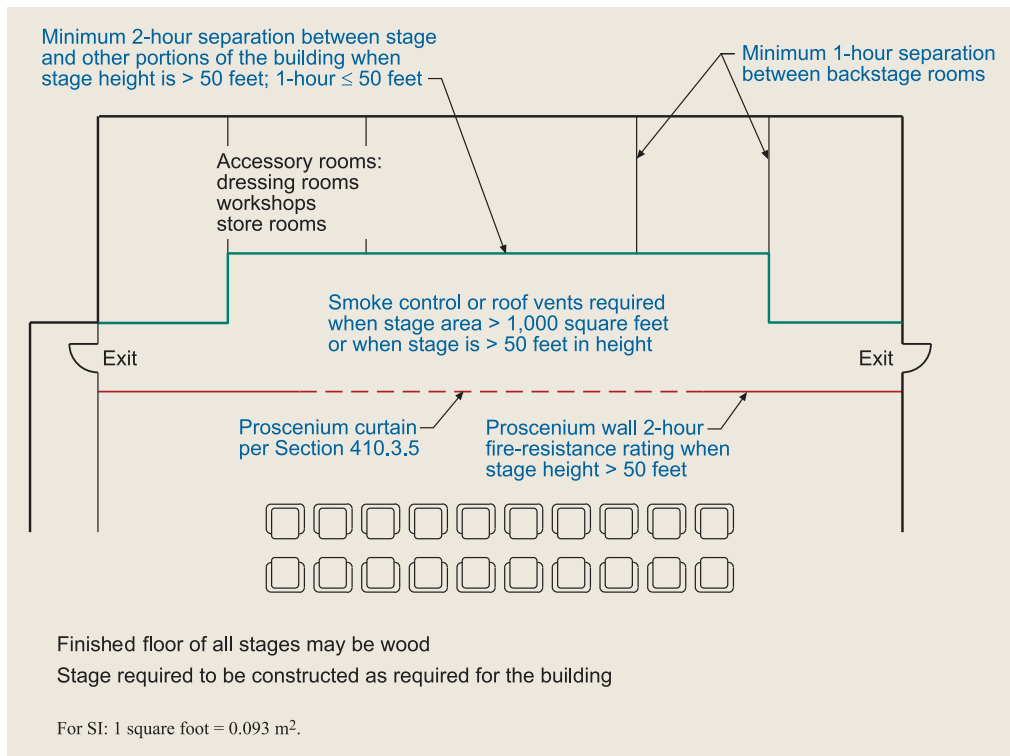


Figure 410-1
Stages.