

Section 715 *Joint Systems*

A fire-resistant joint system is defined in Section 202 as “an assemblage of specific materials or products that are designed, tested, and fire-resistance rated in accordance with either ASTM E 1966 or UL 2079 to resist, for a prescribed period of time, the passage of fire through joints made in or between fire-resistance-rated assemblies.” The term *joint* is also defined as “the linear opening in or between adjacent fire-resistance-rated assemblies that is designed to allow independent movement of the building, in any plane, caused by thermal, seismic, wind or any other loading.” The approved joint system should be designed to resist the passage of fire for a time period not less than the required fire-resistance rating of the floor, roof, or wall in or between which it is installed. See Figure 715-1.

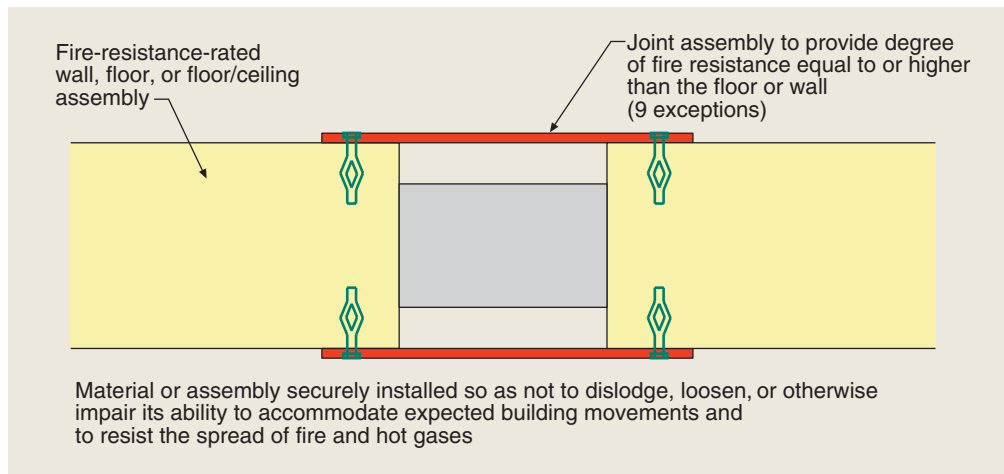


Figure 715-1
**Fire-resistant
joint systems.**

The code lists nine locations where it is not necessary to provide fire-resistant joint systems. For most of the applications listed, they are also locations where fire assemblies are not required to protect openings in the horizontal or vertical assemblies. Item 9 references maximum $\frac{5}{8}$ -inch (15.9-mm) control joints when tested in accordance with ASTM E 119 or UL 263.