

1.1 BUILDING ELEMENTS REQUIRED TO SATISFY PRESCRIBED FIRE-RESISTANCE LEVEL

BCA: Part C, D1.12

PURPOSE

Certain elements and structures within a building must have a fire-resistance level to maintain structural ability during a fire and restrict the spread of fire.

REQUIREMENTS

A fire-resisting structure must:–

- a) Be provided with the fire-resistance level specified in the *Building Code of Australia*; and
- b) Have all openings protected with doors, windows, shutters, panels or other means rated to provide the required fire-resistance level.

MAINTENANCE CHECKS

It is recommended that the relevant building surveyor should require an annual inspection of these structures. The owner may delegate this function to another person or body where necessary or appropriate.

To ensure the integrity and safety of fire-resisting structures, inspections should ensure:–

- a) No unauthorised penetration or attachment has occurred.
- b) Proper operation of devices protecting openings.
- c) No damage has occurred.

MAINTENANCE RECORDS

The following information must be recorded:–

- a) The dates the yearly inspection was carried out; and
- b) The name of the person conducting inspection; and
- c) Any problems identified in the inspection; and
- d) Actions taken to rectify problems identified; and
- e) Date the rectification occurred; and
- f) Signature of the person conducting the inspection.

A log sheet to record this information is provided in Appendix C of this manual.