



# 45 Minute Fire Resistance Rating of Exposing Garage Walls

The Building Standards Department issues Builder Tips as part of our customer service program. They are designed to provide an improved understanding of the Building Code and to reduce the costs associated with correcting infractions. Please contact your area building inspector for further information or call the Building Standards Department at 905.475.4848 extension 2189

## 9.10.3.1. Fire-Resistance and Fire-Protection Ratings

(1) Where a fire-resistance rating or a fire-protection rating is required in this Section for an element of a building, such rating shall be determined in conformance with

- (a) the test methods described in Part 3,
- (b) MMAH Supplementary Standard SB-2, “Fire Performance Ratings”, or
- (c) MMAH Supplementary SB-3, “Fire and Sound Resistance Tables.”

(See Note A-9.10.3.1.(1))

## 9.10.15.5. Construction of Exposing Building Face of Houses

(1) Except as provided in Sentences (1.1), (2), (4) and (6), each exposing building face and any exterior wall located above an exposing building face that encloses an attic or roof space shall be constructed in conformance with Subsection 9.10.8.

- (a) for the exposing building face as a whole, or
- (b) for any number of separate portions of the exposing building face.

(1.1) Sentence (1) does not apply where

- (a) the limiting distance is not less than 1.2 m (3 ft 11 in),
- (b) the limiting distance is less than 1.2 m (3 ft 11 in) but not less than 0.6 m (23<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub> in), provided that the exposing building face has a fire-resistance rating of not less than 45 min, or
- (c) the limiting distance is less than 0.6 m (23<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub> in), provided that the exposing building face has a fire-resistance rating of not less than 45 min and is clad with non-combustible material.



## OBJECTIVE

An important Building Code principle is that one person's property should not be allowed to damage another's. The level of fire resistance required is to contain the fire to the building of fire origin. Noncombustible cladding is required principally to protect a building from fire to another building.

The Supplementary Standards (SB-2) and (SB-3) provide several wall assemblies to meet the requirements of the Ontario Building Code. In the illustration the header assembly is required to be constructed to achieve a minimum 45 minute fire-resistance rating. The wall assembly (from the foundation wall to the header) was selected from Supplementary Standard SB-3, wall type W1e. Generally, you would encounter this wall assembly in a situation involving exterior garage walls where the limiting distance is less than 2 feet.

