



STANDARD MASONRY CHIMNEY AND FIREPLACE GUIDE

FOR ONE-TO-TWO FAMILY DWELLINGS

SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

A permit is required for any repair, alteration and/or construction of a masonry chimney or fireplace. Permit shall be obtained prior to the start of the work.

One electronic set of plans, digitally signed by the designer/architect, contractor, or homeowner responsible for preparing the plans. All plans submitted (*at minimum, include existing and new floor plans*) shall be a minimum plan size of 11" x 17" and **must be legible** to facilitate digital imaging as a permanent record after the project is completed.

Exterior modifications to buildings require Planning review and approval prior to submittal to the Building Division.

If the property is overseen by a Homeowners Association a letter of authorization signed by the HOA, is required.

The following is a listing of the general code requirements based on the **2022** California Codes & Mountain View Municipal Code. This handout is intended to provide general information. If you have questions, please contact the Building Division at (650) 903-6313 or email us at building@mountainview.gov

BASIC CODE REQUIREMENTS

1. Provide minimum existing and proposed elevations plans, and/or sections plans.
2. For fireplace installation requirements visit the Mountain View City Code, Chapter 8, Sections 8.20.35, 8.20.46 & 8.25.1 - 8.25.5.
3. If fireplace removed, verify that the fireplace was not part of the stability of the existing building. Additionally, provide the proposed framing where fireplace was located (e.g. proposed foundation, floor joists, type of walls, roof rafters/ceiling joists and the required insulation) in compliance with the CRC section 4, 5, 6 & 8 and CEnerc Table 150.1-B.
4. Show compliance on the plans with Chapter 10, Table R1001.1 "Summary of requirements for masonry fireplaces and chimneys"; and compliance, if required, with the figure R1001.1 "Fireplace and chimney details", of the current California Residential Code:

TABLE R1001.1
SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS FOR MASONRY FIREPLACES AND CHIMNEYS

ITEM	LETTER	REQUIREMENTS
Hearth slab thickness	A	4"
Hearth extension (each side of opening)	B	8" fireplace opening < 6 square foot. 12" fireplace opening ≥ 6 square foot.
Hearth extension (front of opening)	C	16" fireplace opening < 6 square foot. 20" fireplace opening ≥ 6 square foot.
Hearth slab reinforcing	D	Reinforced to carry its own weight and all imposed loads.
Thickness of wall of firebox	E	10" solid brick or 8" where a firebrick lining is used. Joints in firebrick 1/4" maximum.
Distance from top of opening to throat	F	8"
Smoke chamber wall thickness Unlined walls	G	6" 8"
Chimney Vertical reinforcing ^b	H	Four No. 4 full-length bars for chimney up to 40" wide. Add two No. 4 bars for each additional 40" or fraction of width or each additional flue.
Horizontal reinforcing	J	1/4" ties at 18" and two ties at each bend in vertical steel.
Bond beams	K	No specified requirements.
Fireplace lintel	L	Noncombustible material.
Chimney walls with flue lining	M	Solid masonry units or hollow masonry units grouted solid with not less than 4-inch nominal thickness.
Distances between adjacent flues	—	See Section R1003.13.
Effective flue area (based on area of fireplace opening)	P	See Section R1003.15.
Clearances Combustible material Mantel and trim Above roof	R	See Sections R1001.11 and R1003.18. See Section R1001.11, Exception 4. 3' at roofline and 2' at 10'.

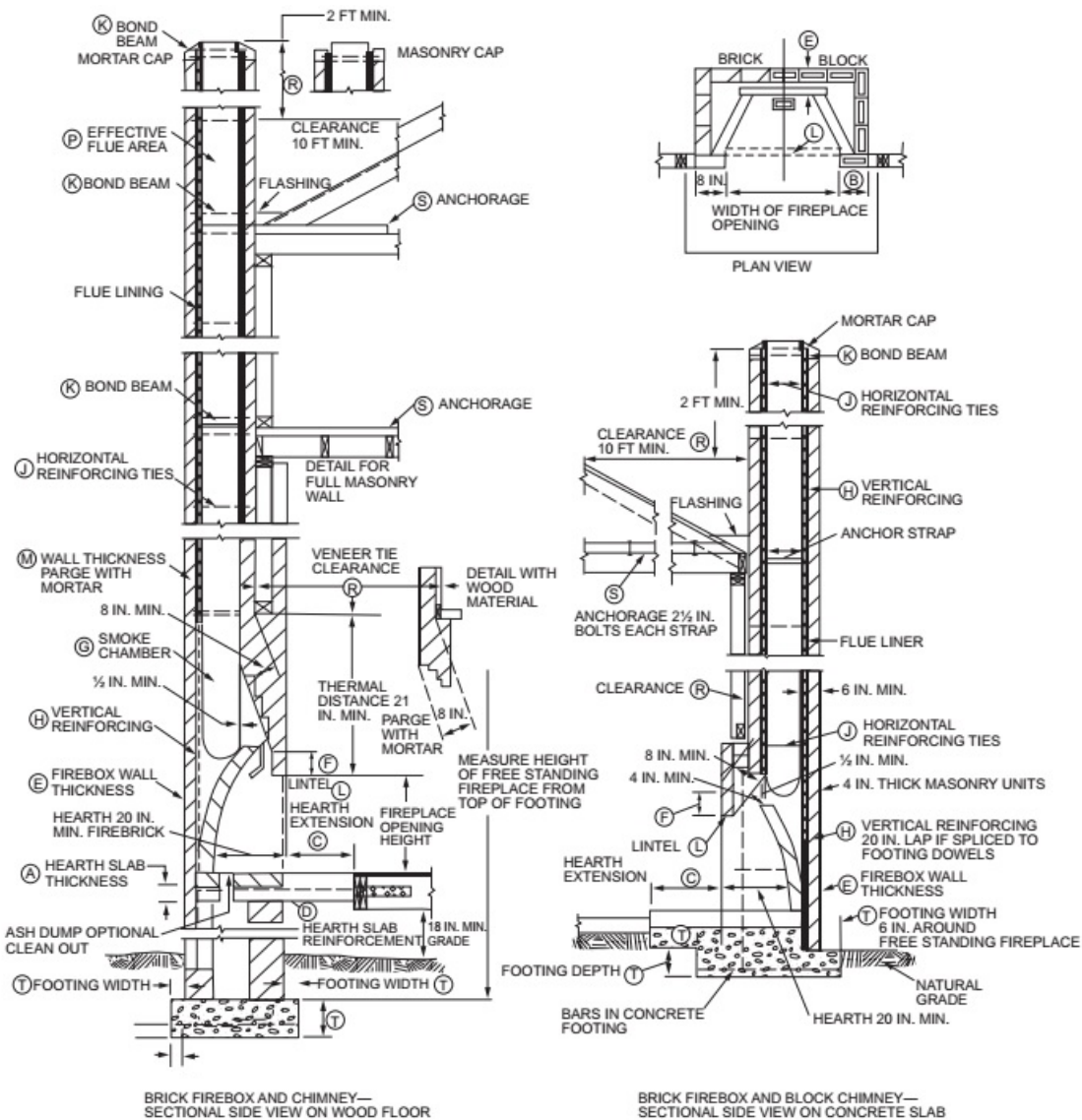
Anchorage ^a Strap Number Embedment into chimney Fasten to Bolts	S	$\frac{3}{16}$ " x 1" Two 12" hooked around outer bar with 6" extension. 4 joists Two $\frac{1}{2}$ " diameter.
Footing Thickness Width	T	12" min. 6" each side of fireplace wall.

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm, 1 foot = 304.8 mm, 1 square foot = 0.0929 m².

Note: This table provides a summary of major requirements for the construction of masonry chimneys and fireplaces. Letter references are to Figure R1001.1, which shows examples of typical construction. This table does not cover all requirements, nor does it cover all aspects of the indicated requirements. For the actual mandatory requirements of the code, see the indicated section of text.

a. The letters refer to Figure R1001.1.

b. Not required in Seismic Design Category A or B.



For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm, 1 foot = 304.8 mm.

FIGURE R1001.1
FIREPLACE AND CHIMNEY DETAILS

OTHER RELATED HANDOUTS

- Smoke Detector & Carbon Monoxide requirements
- Self-Certification - Smoke & Carbon Detectors