This Tip Sheet reflects code requirements of the 2015 International Residential Code (IRC) with Washington State Amendments.

### Table R302.6 - Dwelling-Garage Separation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Separation</th>
<th>Material</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>From the residence and attics</td>
<td>Not less than ½-inch gypsum board or equivalent applied to the garage side.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From habitable rooms above the garage</td>
<td>Not less than 5/8-inch Type X gypsum board or equivalent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure(s) supporting floor/ceiling assemblies used for separation</td>
<td>Not less than ½-inch gypsum board or equivalent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>required by this section</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garages located less than 3 feet from a dwelling unit on the same lot</td>
<td>Not less than ½-inch gypsum board or equivalent applied to the interior side of exterior walls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>that are within this area.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Envelope**

**Living Area**

![Diagram of Dwelling/Garage Separation]

**Fastening per IRC Table R702.3.5:**

**5/8” Type X at Ceiling:**
- Fasten with 6d cooler nails @ 6” o.c. or drywall screws @ 6” o.c. when framing is maximum 24” o.c.

**1/2” Gypsum Board at Walls:**
- Fasten with 5d cooler nails @ 8” o.c. or drywall screws @ 16” o.c. when framing is maximum 16” o.c.
- Fasten with 5d cooler nails @ 8” o.c. or drywall screws @ 12” o.c. when framing is maximum 24” o.c.

**GENERAL INFORMATION:**
- The intent of this Tip Sheet is to provide a general understanding of the code requirements and does not address the subject in great detail.
- Additional information can be obtained from your local participating jurisdiction.
Penetrations (of the protected envelope)

Ducts:
Ducts in the garage and ducts penetrating the walls or ceilings separating the dwelling from the garage must be a minimum of No. 26 gage sheet metal with no register outlets (openings) into the garage. R302.5.2

Other Penetrations:
Penetrations through the required separation must be protected at openings around vents, pipes, ducts, cables and wires at ceiling and floor level, with an approved material to resist the free passage of flame and products of combustion. The material filling this annular space shall not be required to meet the ASTM E 136 requirements. R302.11 Fireblocking Item 4.

Doors:
Doors separating the garage and living spaces shall be 1-3/8” solid wood, solid or honeycomb core steel doors not less than 1-3/8” thick, or 20-minute rated doors. These doors shall also be equipped with a self-closing device. These doors shall not open into a sleeping room.
Special Conditions

- Gypsum board protection (see page 1 of this handout for specific requirements)

Protected envelope must prevent potential fire from accessing living areas through intermediate spaces and all supporting members.

OR

Gypsum board extends to the underside of roof sheathing.

Protected envelope must prevent potential fire from accessing living areas through intermediate spaces.

Gypsum board protection (see page 1 of this handout for specific requirements)

Beams & supporting members must be included in the garage separation.

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