

Residential Floor Construction

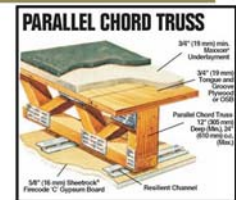
Wood frame construction is the predominant method of when building homes in the United States. The age of the building can sometimes give you clues as to what type of floor construction you may encounter. Beware however, many older homes have been remodeled with new construction types. Therefore, you should approach all residential fires as if the floors are constructed with modern construction materials.

Legacy Floor Construction

- Legacy basements usually use 2 X 6 or 2 X 8 joist set on 2 – foot centers.
- The decking (first floor) is typically constructed of 1 bys (1 X 4s or 1 X 6s) or plywood



Modern Floor Construction



MASS = Fire Resistive

Lightweight floor assembly failed over three times faster than the floor constructed with legacy components in a recent UL floor assembly burn test.

For more information on this test go to www.ul.com/fireservice and check out Structural Stability of Engineered Lumber in Fire Conditions