Use and Occupancy Classification
Below is information regarding the classification of building and structure, or portions, thereof by group.

Assembly Group A
Assembly Group A occupancy includes, among others, the use of a building or structure, or a portion thereof, for the gathering of persons for purposes such as civic, social or religious functions; recreation, food or drink consumption or awaiting transportation. Assembly occupancies shall be classified as Groups A-1, A-2, A-3 or A-4.

Assembly Preforming Arts or Motion Pictures, Group A-1
Assembly uses, usually with fixed seating, intended for the production and viewing of the performing arts or motion pictures including, but not limited to, the following:

- Concert Halls
- Motion picture theaters
- Symphony and concert halls
- Television and radio studios admitting an audience
- Theaters

Assembly Food and/or Drink Consumption, Group A-2
Assembly uses intended for food and/or drink consumption including, but not limited to, the following:

- Banquet halls
- Night clubs
- Restaurants
- Taverns and bars

Assembly Worship, Recreation or Amusement, Group A-3
Assembly uses intended for worship, recreation or amusement and other assembly uses not classified elsewhere in Group A including, but not limited to, the following:

- Amusement arcades
- Art galleries
- Bowling alleys
- Community halls
- Courtrooms
- Dance halls
- Exhibition halls
- Funeral parlors
- Gymnasiums
- Indoor swimming pools
- Indoor tennis courts
- Lecture halls
Libraries  
Museums  
Places of religious worship  
Pool and billiard parlors  
Waiting areas in transportation terminals

**Assembly Indoor Sporting, Group A-4**
Assembly uses intended for viewing of indoor sporting events and activities with spectator seating including, but not limited to, the following:

- Arenas
- Skating rinks
- Swimming pools
- Tennis courts

**Assembly Outdoor Activities, Group A-5**
Assembly uses intended for participation in or viewing outdoor activities including, but not limited to, the following:

- Amusement park structures
- Bleachers
- Grandstands
- Stadiums

**Business Group B**
Business Group B occupancy includes, among others, the use of a building or structure, or a portion thereof, for office, professional or service-type transactions, including storage of records and accounts. Business occupancies shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Airport traffic control towers
- Ambulatory health care facilities
- Animal hospitals, kennels and pounds
- Banks
- Barber and beauty shops
- Car wash
- Civic administration
- Clinic—outpatient
- Dry cleaning and laundries: pick-up and delivery stations and self-service
- Educational occupancies for students above the 12th grade
- Electronic data processing
- Laboratories: testing and research
- Motor vehicle showrooms
Post offices
Print shops
Professional services (architects, attorneys, dentists, physicians, engineers, etc.)
Radio and television stations
Telephone exchanges
Training and skill development not within a school or academic program

**Educational Group E**
Educational Group E occupancy includes, among others, the use of a building or structure, or a portion thereof, by six or more persons at any one time for educational purposes through the 12th grade. Educational occupancies shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Religious educational rooms (accessory to places of worship with 100 or more occupants)
- Religious auditoriums (accessory to places of worship with 100 or more occupants)
- Day care facilities (more than 5 children older than 2 ½ years of age)

**Factory Industrial Group F**
Factory Industrial Group F occupancy includes, among others, the use of a building or structure, or a portion thereof, for assembling, disassembling, fabricating, finishing, manufacturing, packaging, repair or processing operations that are not classified as a Group H hazardous or Group S storage occupancy. Factory Industrial occupancies shall be classified as Groups F-1 or F-2.

**Factory Industrial moderate-hazard, Group F-1**
Factory industrial uses which are not classified as Factory Industrial F-2 Low Hazard shall be classified as F-1 Moderate Hazard and shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Agricultural machinery
- Aircraft (manufacturing, not to include repair)
- Appliances
- Athletic equipment
- Automobiles
- Bakeries
- Beverages: over 16% alcohol content
- Bicycles
- Boats
- Brooms or brushes
- Business machines
- Cameras and photo equipment
- Canvas or similar fabric
- Carpets and rugs
- Clothing
- Construction
- Disinfectants
- Dry cleaning
- Dyeing
- Electric generation plants
- Electronics
- Engines
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food processing</th>
<th>Photographic film</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Furniture</td>
<td>Plastic products</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hemp products</td>
<td>Printing or publishing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jute products</td>
<td>Recreational vehicles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Launderies</td>
<td>Refuse incineration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leather products</td>
<td>Shoes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Machinery</td>
<td>Soaps and detergents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Metals</td>
<td>Television filming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Millwork</td>
<td>Textiles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motion Pictures</td>
<td>Tobacco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor vehicles</td>
<td>Trailers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Musical instruments</td>
<td>Upholstering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optical goods</td>
<td>Wood Distillation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper mills or products</td>
<td>Woodworking</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Factory Industrial low-hazard, Group F-2**

Factory industrial uses that involve the fabrication or manufacturing of noncombustible materials which during finishing, packing or processing do not involve a significant fire hazard shall be classified as F-2 occupancies and shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Beverages: up to and including 16% alcohol content
- Brick and masonry
- Ceramic products
- Foundries
- Glass products
- Gypsum
- Ice
- Metal products

**High-hazard Group H**

High-hazard Group H occupancy includes, among others, the use of a building or structure, or a portion thereof, that involves the manufacturing, processing, generation or storage of materials that constitute a physical or health hazard in quantities in excess of those allowed in control areas. Hazardous occupancies shall be classified as Groups H-1, H-2, H-3, H-4 or H-5.

**High-hazard detonation, Group H-1**

Buildings and structures containing materials that pose a detonation hazard shall be classified as Group H-1. Please Contact the Building Inspection Division for assistance.
High-hazard deflagration or accelerated burning, Group H-2
Buildings and structures containing materials that pose a deflagration hazard or a hazard from accelerated burning shall be classified as Group H-2. Please Contact the Building Inspection Division for assistance.

High-hazard combustion or physical, Group H-3
Buildings and structures containing materials that readily support combustion or that pose a physical hazard shall be classified as Group H-3. Please Contact the Building Inspection Division for assistance.

High-hazard health, Group H-4
Buildings and structures which contain materials that are health hazards shall be classified as Group H-4. Please Contact the Building Inspection Division for assistance.

High-hazard semiconductor, research and development, Group H-5
Semiconductor fabrication facilities and comparable research and development areas in which hazardous production materials are used and the aggregate quantity of materials is in excess of those listed. Please Contact the Building Inspection Division for assistance.

Institutional Group I
Institutional Group I occupancy includes, among others, the use of a building or structure, or a portion thereof, in which people are cared for or live in a supervised environment, having physical limitations because of health or age are harbored for medical treatment or other care or treatment, or in which people are detained for penal or correctional purposes or in which the liberty of the occupants is restricted. Institutional occupancies shall be classified as Group I-1, I-2, I-3 or I-4.

Institutional personal care services, Group I-1
This occupancy shall include buildings, structures or portions thereof for more than 16 persons who reside on a 24 hour basis in a supervised environment and receive custodial care. The persons receiving care are capable of self preservation. This group shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Alcohol and drug centers
- Assisted living facilities
- Congregate care facilities
- Convalescent facilities
- Group homes
- Halfway houses
- Residential board and custodial care facilities
Social rehabilitation facilities

**Institutional medical, surgical, psychiatric, nursing or custodial care, Group I-2**
This occupancy shall include buildings and structures used for medical, surgical, psychiatric, nursing or custodial care for persons who are not capable of self-preservation. This group shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Detoxification facilities
- Foster care facilities
- Hospitals
- Nursing homes
- Psychiatric hospitals

**Institutional restraint or security, Group I-3**
This occupancy shall include buildings and structures that are inhabited by more than five persons who are under restraint or security. An I-3 facility is occupied by persons who are generally incapable of self-preservation due to security measures not under the occupants' control. This group shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Correctional centers
- Detention centers
- Jails
- Prerlease centers
- Prisons
- Reformatories

**Institutional care facilities, Group I-4**
This group shall include buildings and structures occupied by persons of any age who receive custodial care for less than 24 hours by individuals other than parents or guardians, relatives by blood, marriage or adoption, and in a place other than the home of the person cared for and shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Adult care facility
- Child care facility

**Mercantile Group M**
Mercantile Group M occupancy includes, among others, the use of a building or structure or a portion thereof, for the display and sale of merchandise and involves stocks of goods, wares or merchandise incidental to such purposes and accessible to the public. Mercantile occupancies shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
Department stores
Drug stores
Markets
Motor fuel-dispensing facilities
Retail or wholesale stores
Sales rooms

Residential Group R
Residential Group R includes, among others, the use of a building or structure, or a portion thereof, for sleeping purposes when not classified as an Institutional Group I. Residential occupancies shall be classified as Group R-1, R-2, R-3 or R-4.

Residential transient, Group R-1
Residential occupancies where the occupants are primarily transient in nature, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Boarding houses
- Hotels
- Motels

Residential nontransient, Group R-2
Residential occupancies where the occupants are primarily permanent in nature, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Apartment houses
- Boarding houses
- Convents
- Dormitories
- Fraternities and sororities
- Hotels
- Live/work units
- Monasteries
- Motels
- Vacation timeshare properties

Residential permanent, Group R-3
Residential occupancies where the occupants are primarily permanent in nature and not classified as Group R-1, R-2, R-4 or I, including, but not limited to, the following:
Adult care facilities (five or fewer persons of any age for less than 24 hours)
Child care facilities (five or fewer persons of any age for less than 24 hours.)
Congregate living facilities (16 or fewer persons)
Duplex dwelling units
Single family dwelling units

**Residential care/assisted living facilities, Group R-4**
Residential occupancies where the occupants are primarily permanent in nature and are arranged for, more than 5 but not more than 16 persons, excluding staff, who reside on a 24 hour basis in a supervised environment and receive custodial care. The persons receiving care are capable of self preservation. This group shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Alcohol and drug centers
- Assisted living facilities
- Congregate care facilities
- Convalescent facilities
- Group homes
- Halfway houses
- Residential board and custodial care facilities
- Social rehabilitation facilities

**Storage Group S**
Storage Group S occupancy includes, among others, the use of a building or structure, or a portion thereof, for storage that is not classified as a hazardous occupancy. Storage occupancies shall be classified as Group S-1 or S-2.

**Storage moderate-hazard, Group S-1**
Buildings occupied for storage uses that are not classified as Group S-2, including, but not limited to, the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aerosols, Levels 2 and 3</th>
<th>Buttons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aircraft hangar</td>
<td>Cordage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bags: cloth, burlap and paper</td>
<td>Dry boat storage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bamboos and rattan</td>
<td>Furniture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baskets</td>
<td>Furs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belting: canvas and leather</td>
<td>Glues, mucilage, pastes and size</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books and paper in rolls or packs</td>
<td>Grains</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Horns and combs
Leather
Linoleum
Lumber
Mattresses
Motor vehicle repair garages
Photo engravings
Resilient flooring
Silks
Soaps
Sugar
Tires
Tobacco, cigars, cigarettes and snuff
Upholstery
Wax candles

**Storage low-hazard, Group S-2**
Includes, among others, buildings used for the storage of noncombustible materials such as products on wood pallets or in paper cartons with or without single thickness divisions; or in paper wrappings. Such products are permitted to have a negligible amount of plastic trim, such as knobs, handles or film wrapping. Group S-2 storage uses shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

Asbestos
Beverages up to and including 16-percent alcohol in metal, glass or ceramic containers
Cement in bags
Chalk and crayons
Dairy products in nonwaxed coated paper containers
Dry cell batteries
Electrical coils
Electrical motors
Empty cans
Food products
Foods in noncombustible containers
Fresh fruits and vegetables in nonplastic trays or containers
Frozen foods
Glass

Glass bottles, empty or filled with noncombustible liquids
Gypsum board
Inert pigments
Ivory
Meats
Metal cabinets
Metal desks with plastic tops and trim
Metal parts
Metals
Mirrors
Oil-filled and other types of distribution transformers
Parking garages, open or enclosed
Porcelain and pottery
Stoves
Talc and soapstones
Washers and dryers

**Utility and Miscellaneous Group U**
Buildings and structures of an accessory character and miscellaneous structures not classified in any specific occupancy. Group U shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agricultural buildings</th>
<th>Residential aircraft hangars*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barns</td>
<td>Residential grain silos**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carports</td>
<td>Retaining walls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fences more than 6 feet high</td>
<td>Sheds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenhouses</td>
<td>Stables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livestock shelters</td>
<td>Tanks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private garages</td>
<td>Towers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Accessory to a one or two family residence
** Accessory to a residential occupancy

The information provided above is for general use only, additional information is available in the International Building Code specifically Chapter 3 Use and Occupancy Classifications.