

## Building Classifications - Uniform Building Code -

Group A	<p><b>Assembly Occupancies</b> Buildings or areas of buildings used for the gathering of large <u>groups of 50 or more</u> people - places used for people gathering for <u>entertainment, worship, and eating or drinking</u>.</p> <p>Meeting/Conference    Stadiums    Lecture Halls    Classroom Churches    Restaurants    Museums    Libraries</p>
Group B	<p><b>Business Occupancies</b> Buildings or areas used for general business purposes. Places where <u>services</u> are provided (not to be confused with mercantile, below). Examples: banks, insurance agencies, government buildings (including police and fire stations), and doctor's offices.</p> <p>Offices    Banks    Education (+12) Clinics    Fire/Police Stations    Post Offices</p>
Group E	<p><b>Educational</b> Schools, buildings or areas used for education and/or day care <u>through the 12th grade</u>.</p> <p>Schools    Daycare</p>
Group F	<p><b>Factory and Industrial</b> Buildings used for fabrication, assembly and industrial uses (<u>not group H</u>) - places where goods are <u>manufactured or repaired</u> (unless considered "High-Hazard" (below)). Examples: factories and dry cleaners.</p> <p>Woodworking    Painting    Parts Assembly</p>
Group H	<p><b>Hazardous Occupancies</b> Buildings that involve <u>manufacture, processing or storage</u> of materials that constitute a high fire, explosion, health or environmental hazard - places involving production or storage of very flammable or toxic materials. Includes places handling explosives and/or highly toxic materials (such as fireworks, hydrogen peroxide, and cyanide).</p>
Group I	<p><b>Institutional Occupancies</b> Places where people are <u>physically unable to leave without assistance</u>. Examples: hospitals, nursing homes, and prisons.</p> <p>Hospitals    Health Care    Nursing Homes</p>
Group M	<p><b>Mercantile</b> Places <u>where goods are displayed and sold</u>. Examples: grocery stores, department stores, and gas stations.</p> <p>Retail Stores</p>
Group R	<p><b>Residential Occupancies</b> Places providing <u>accommodations for overnight stay</u> (excluding Institutional). Examples: houses, apartment buildings, hotels, and motels.</p> <p>Hotels    Dormitories    Rooming Houses</p>
Group S	<p><b>Storage</b> Places <u>where items are stored</u> (unless considered High-Hazard). Examples: warehouses and parking garages. Building or portion of building used for storage (not classified as group H)</p>
Group U	<p><b>Utility and Miscellaneous</b> Buildings used for <u>garaging, agriculture and minor equipment storage</u> (not classified by other uses). Examples: water towers, barns, towers.</p>

Many buildings may have multiple occupancies. These are referred to as "mixed occupancies" and the different parts will be required to meet the codes for those specific areas. An example of this is a shopping mall with underground parking. The shopping area itself is Group M (mercantile), while the parking area would qualify as Group S (storage).

In places where more than one occupancy may apply the stricter code is usually enforced. An example of this is a restaurant with seating under 50 which is not addressed in the code as either mercantile or business (this is a technical issue, but could be viewed as either or neither). Code enforcement officials will usually enforce the strictest side of the code.