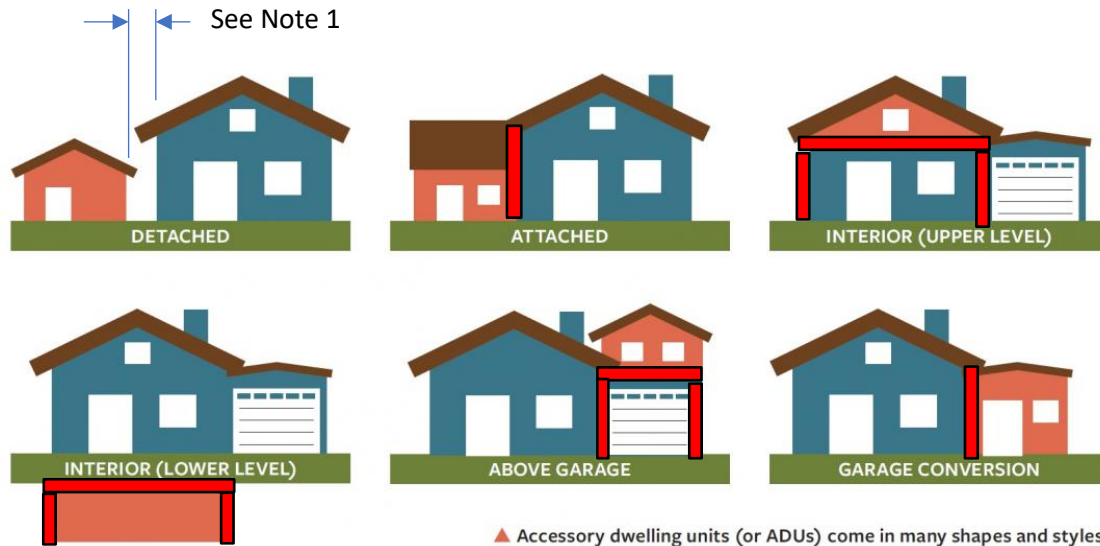



Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) One-hour Fire Resistive Walls and Ceiling



 Represents a one-hour fire resistive construction

When an ADU is attached to the home or is an attached garage conversion, separation of the structures may be required.

If an accessory dwelling and an ADU share a common interconnected smoke alarm system, then they do not need to be considered separate dwelling units.

Where the smoke alarm systems are not interconnected, existing structures may need to be retrofitted to provide a one-hour fire resistant wall to separate the dwelling units. The fire resistant wall must be from the foundation to through to the roof unless each unit has 5/8" x gypsum wallboard applied to the ceilings of each unit with 1/2 inch gypsum wallboard on the walls supporting the ceilings and a draft stop along the fire resisitant wall line in the attic to separate the units.

Conversions of an above garage, an upper level floor, or lower level floor that do not have an interconnected smoke alarm also require that the lower floor ceiling and the walls supporting the lower floor ceiling be one-hour fire resistive rated. Any doors that communicate between the space will need to be one-hour rated.

Note 1: If the structures are closer than 3 feet then both structures will require a one-hour wall. If the structures are 3 feet to no greater than 6 feet, one of the structures will require protection. When the structures are 6 feet or greater then neither structure requires protection.

Examples of fire resistive construction can be found from wall board supplies or at www.ul.com. Assemblies must be constructed using the materials and method shown in the assembly listing.

If you have questions, please email Building Services at building@co.thurston.wa.us or call (360) 754-3355 ext. 7289.