

We've Got It Covered

AN EXPANSION JOINT COVER EDUCATIONAL SERIES

UNDERSTANDING FIRE RATED EXPANSION JOINTS

Fire rated expansion joints are necessary in order to maintain a building's safety and resiliency. Learn how to incorporate them without jeopardizing the life safety aspects of a building.

- An expansion joint that runs through a building may interrupt a fire rated assembly. To maintain the integrity of the interrupted fire rated assembly and prevent the spread of fire, a fire barrier or fire stop should be used.
- The main difference between fire barriers and fire stops is the allowance for movement. A fire stop is used for non-movement/static applications while a fire barrier is used for moving/dynamic applications.
- To ensure proper functionality of the expansion joint cover system, it is critical that fire barrier dimensions be taken into account when determining the final size of the expansion joint opening.
- Fire barrier testing should be certified through a reputable third party certification agency, such as Underwriter Laboratories (UL).



*Construction Specialties has a team of experts
that can address any questions or concerns related to your project.*

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 **Expansion Joint Covers**