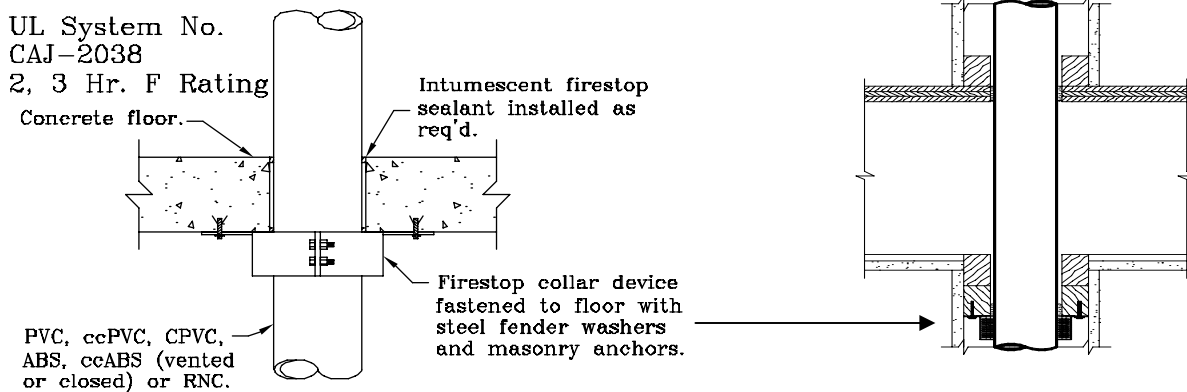


Firestopping Myth #33

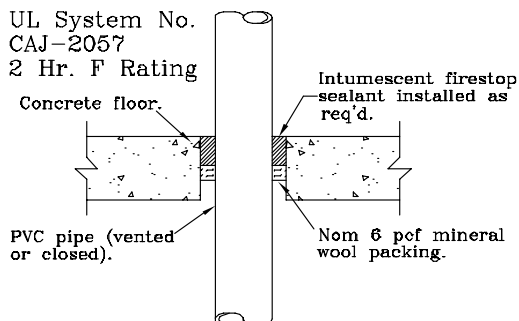
You only need to fire caulk plastic pipes 2" & smaller.

To properly firestop plastic pipes, there must be sufficient intumescent firestop material installed that is capable of expanding and sealing off the opening when the pipe melts and burns away.

Firestop Collars are normally used on plastic pipes because the factory made collar contains a prescribed amount of firestop material required to completely seal off the opening.



While there are UL classified assemblies that only utilize intumescent firestop sealants, these assemblies require that a nominal 1-inch gap surrounding the pipe and 2 inches deep be completely filled with firestop sealant.



Unfortunately, most contractors only apply a minimal amount of firestop sealant to the surface between the pipe and the wall/floor, which is insufficient and not capable of sealing the opening left when the pipe burns away.

CPVC / PEX Supply Lines = Intumescent Firestop Caulk
PVC/ABS Drain, Waste & Vent = Firestop Collars