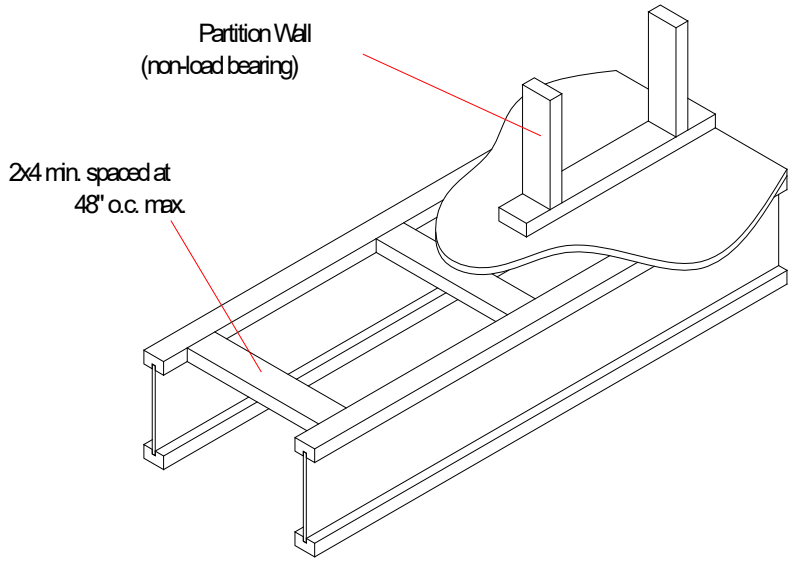
Non-Load Bearing Partition Wall Parallel Between AJS® / BCI® Joists

Common building practice is to double the joists under a parallel load-bearing wall or to add a joist/beam of adequate size to support the loads. In the case of a non-load-bearing wall, this practice is conservative as a single joist may be adequate to safely support the loads. The single joist shall be properly designed to support the extra loads.

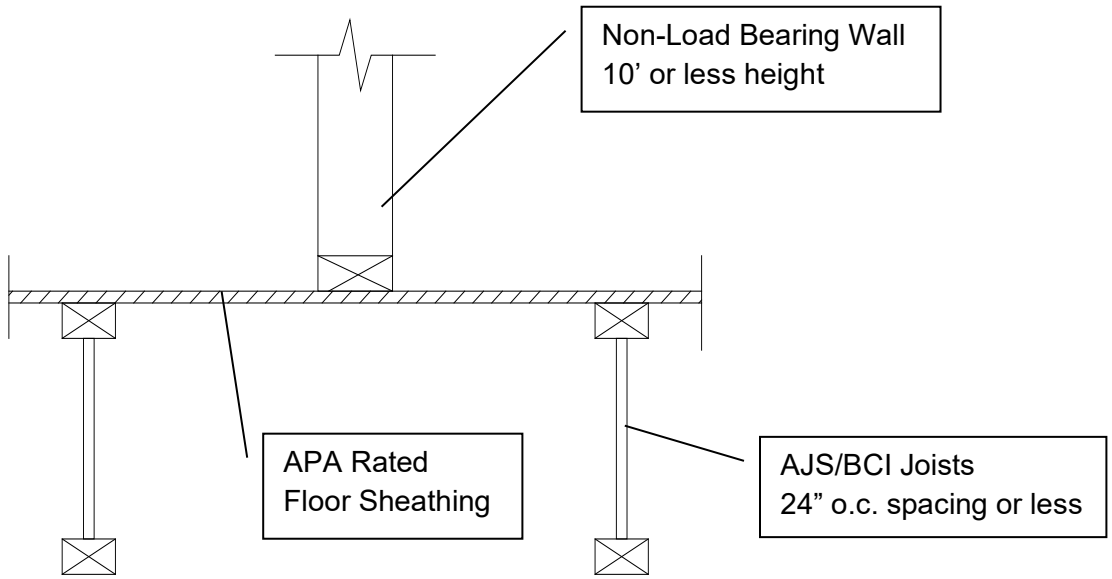
The 2020 National Building Code of Canada (NBCC) clause 9.23.9.8 specify that a non-load-bearing wall parallel to the floor joists shall be supported by joists beneath the wall or on blocking between the joists. Blocking referred to in the previous sentence shall not be less than 38mm by 89mm lumber (nominal 2x4 min.), spaced not more than 1.2m apart (48" o.c.).



Furthermore, APA, The Engineered Wood Association, publish a technical note, Non-Load-Bearing Partitions on APA Structural Panel Floors (B429H), stating that the high strength and stiffness of APA wood structural panels eliminates the need to add blocking between joists under typical non-load-bearing partitions in subfloor and combination subfloor-underlayment applications.

Partitions may be parallel or perpendicular to joists and positioned anywhere on the structural panel floor. However, the effect of the additional load on joist spans must also be checked. Unless joists are already over-designed, an extra joist under the partition may be required.

Please refer to the APA Technical Note B429H for allowable linear loads on the structural panel floor.



Notes: No additional joists or blocking between joists is required if the following provisions are met:

- Each AJS/BCI joist is designed to adequately support its share of additional dead load of partition wall;
- APA rated floor sheathing is adequate to support the partition dead load (refer to APA literature: Non-load Bearing Partitions on APA Structural Panels – Form No. B429H).