

R502.7

Lateral Restraint for Wood Joists

CHANGE TYPE: Clarification

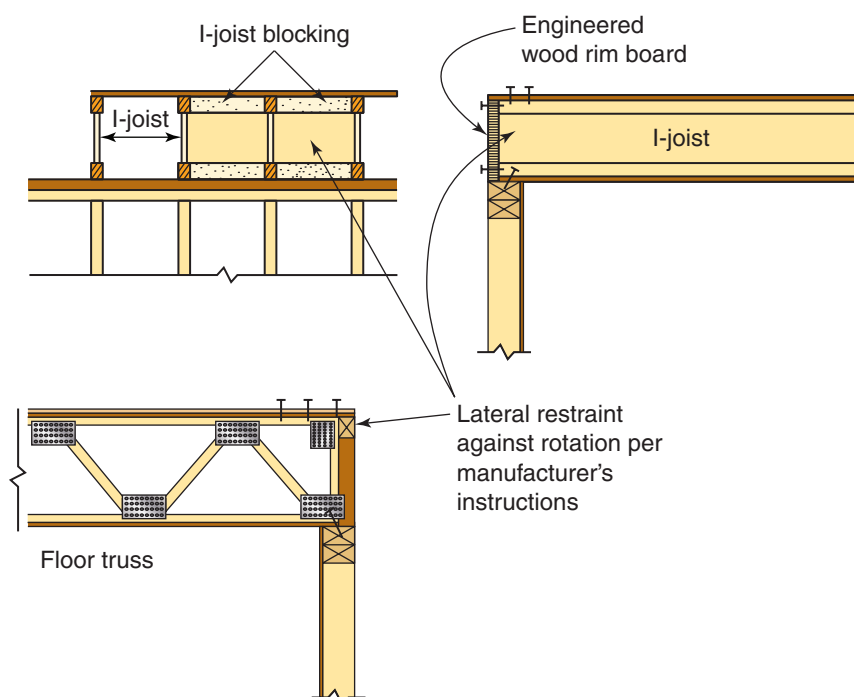
CHANGE SUMMARY: New text clarifies that installation of engineered wood products including lateral support to prevent rotation is determined by the installation instructions of the manufacturer.

2009 CODE: R502.7 Lateral Restraint at Supports. Joists shall be supported laterally at the ends by full-depth solid blocking not less than 2 inches (51 mm) nominal in thickness; or by attachment to a full-depth header, band or rim joist, or to an adjoining stud, or shall be otherwise provided with lateral support to prevent rotation.

Exceptions:

1. Trusses, structural composite lumber, structural glued-laminated members and I-joists shall be supported laterally as required by the manufacturer's recommendations.
2. In Seismic Design Categories D₀, D₁ and D₂, lateral restraint shall also be provided at each intermediate support.

R502.7.1 Bridging. Joists exceeding a nominal 2 inches by 12 inches (51 mm by 305 mm) shall be supported laterally by solid blocking, diagonal bridging (wood or metal), or a continuous 1-inch-by-3-inch (25.4 mm by 76 mm) strip nailed across the bottom of joists perpendicular to joists at intervals not exceeding 8 feet (2438 mm).



Lateral restraint for engineered wood joists and trusses at bearing points

Exception: Trusses, structural composite lumber, structural glued-laminated members and I-joists shall be supported laterally as required by the manufacturer's recommendations.

CHANGE SIGNIFICANCE: The prescribed lateral support requirements of Section R502.7 are intended to apply only to solid-sawn lumber joists. The new text clarifies that the requirements do not apply to engineered wood products such as plate-connected trusses, I-joists, glued-laminated lumber, and structural composite lumber. Engineered wood products may require other means of lateral restraint, and the recommendations of the manufacturer will govern those installations.

R807.1

Attic Access

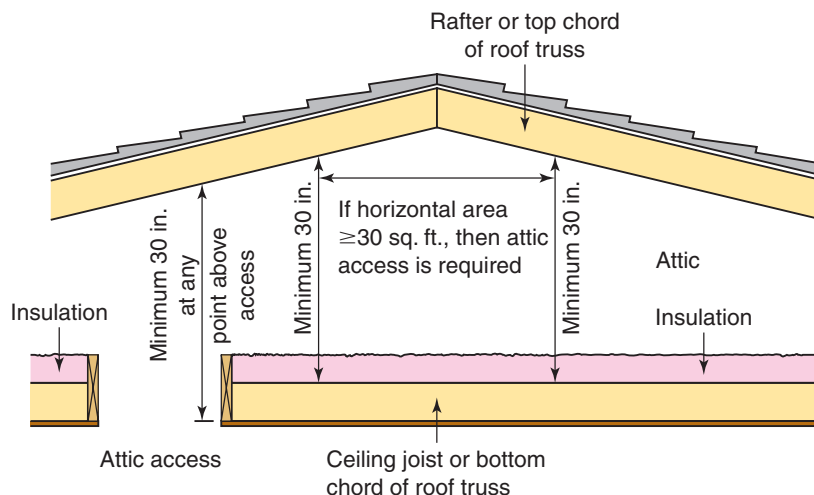
CHANGE TYPE: Clarification

CHANGE SUMMARY: Section R807.1 now prescribes the methods to measure the height of attics requiring access and the height above the attic access opening.

2009 CODE: R807.1 Attic Access. Buildings with combustible ceiling or roof construction shall have an attic access opening to attic areas that exceed 30 square feet (2.8 m²) and have a vertical height of 30 inches (762 mm) or more greater. The vertical height shall be measured from the top of the ceiling framing members to the underside of the roof framing members.

The rough-framed opening shall not be less than 22 inches by 30 inches (559 mm by 762 mm) and shall be located in a hallway or other readily accessible location. When located in a wall, the opening shall be a minimum of 22 inches wide by 30 inches high. When the access is located in a ceiling, A 30-inch (762 mm) minimum unobstructed headroom in the attic space shall be provided 30 inches (762 mm) at some point above the access opening measured vertically from the bottom of ceiling framing members. See Section M1305.1.3 for access requirements where mechanical equipment is located in attics.

CHANGE SIGNIFICANCE: The intent of this change is to resolve some confusion regarding the methods for measuring heights of attics and the required height above an attic access, and to promote uniform application of the provisions. The new text clarifies that measurements are taken from the framing members and not from the insulation. In determining attic height, the measurement is taken from the top of the ceiling joist or truss bottom chord to the bottom of the rafter or truss top chord. Conversely, the minimum clearance height above the attic access opening is measured from the bottom of the ceiling joist or truss bottom chord. The precise methods for measuring heights may be particularly helpful in low-slope roof applications. The other change to this section clarifies that access openings through a wall require a minimum height of 30 inches.



Measuring attic height and attic access headroom