

R806.1

Attic Ventilation



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Attic ventilation

CHANGE TYPE: Deletion

CHANGE SUMMARY: The 2012 IRC exception allowing the building official to waive ventilation requirements due to atmospheric or climatic conditions has been deleted.

2015 CODE: R806.1 Ventilation Required. Enclosed attics and enclosed rafter spaces formed where ceilings are applied directly to the underside of roof rafters shall have cross ventilation for each separate space by ventilating openings protected against the entrance of rain or snow. Ventilation openings shall have a least dimension of $\frac{1}{16}$ inch (1.6 mm) minimum and $\frac{1}{4}$ inch (6.4 mm) maximum. Ventilation openings having a least dimension larger than $\frac{1}{4}$ inch (6.4 mm) shall be provided with corrosion-resistant wire cloth screening, hardware cloth, or similar material with openings having a least dimension of $\frac{1}{16}$ inch (1.6 mm) minimum and $\frac{1}{4}$ inch (6.4 mm) maximum. Openings in roof framing members shall conform to the requirements of Section R802.7. Required ventilation openings shall open directly to the outside air.

Exception: ~~Attic ventilation shall not be required when determined not necessary by the code official due to atmospheric or climatic conditions.~~

CHANGE SIGNIFICANCE: With recent revisions to the IRC roof ventilation requirements, and changes in the 2015 *International Building Code*, both codes now contain specific details on vented and unvented attics, with requirements related to use of vapor retarders and climate-specific instructions on use of air-impermeable insulation. As the former exception was based on climatic conditions with no direction to the building official on matters related to construction methods or details, it has been deleted. As always, the building official has the authority to accept alternative materials, design, and methods of construction in accordance with Section R104.11.



This excerpt is taken from ***Significant Changes to the International Residential Code®*, 2015 Edition**.

Significant Changes publications take you directly to the most important changes that impact projects. Key changes are identified then followed by in-depth discussion of how the change affects real-world application. Photos, tables and illustrations are included to further clarify application. Available for the IBC, IRC, IFC and IPC/IMC/IFGC, the Significant Changes publications are very useful training and review tools for transitioning to a new code edition.