

## Attic Access

2013 California Building Code, Section 1209.2 Attic Access (see also 2013 Residential Code section R807 Attic Access)

An opening not less than 20 inches by 30 inches shall be provided to any attic area having a clear height of over 30 inches. A 30 inch minimum clear headroom in the attic space shall be provided at or above the attic opening.

There are two items to consider when determining if an attic access is required:

- 1) The vertical distance from the top of the ceiling framing member to the bottom of the roof framing member should be a minimum of 30 inches at any one place in the attic.
- 2) Using the above vertical measurement process, a minimum of a 30 inch high area for the entire 20 inch x 30 inch access must be provided.

The opening shall be located in a hallway or other readily accessible location (not over permanent shelving in a closet).

**Exception:** Attics with a maximum vertical height of less than 30 inches.

## **Section 1209.3 Access to Mechanical Appliances**

Access to mechanical appliances installed in attic spaces shall be in accordance with the 2013 California Mechanical Code, Section 904.11 (minimum 22 inches by 30 inches).