

Attic & Underfloor Access

Attic Access - 2019 Residential Code, Section R807

An opening not less than 22 inches by 30 inches shall be provided to any attic area having a clear height of over 30 inches; 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 22-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.

Crawl Spaces - 2019 Residential Code, Section R408.4

Crawl spaces shall be provided with no fewer than one access opening which shall be not less than 18 inches by 24 inches. Openings through a perimeter wall shall be not less than 16 inches by 24 inches.

Access to Mechanical Appliances - 2019 California Mechanical Code, Section 304.4

An attic **or** under-floor space in which an appliance is installed shall be accessible through an opening and passageway not less than the largest component of the appliance, and not less than 22 inches by 30 inches. **(See section 304.4.1 through 304.4.4 of the 2019 CMC for additional requirements related to mechanical equipment location)**

If you have any questions as to the required opening size for your project, please call the Permit Center @ (925) 960-4410.