

ONTARIO BUILDING CODE

9.19.1.1. Required Venting

(1) Except where it can be shown to be unnecessary, where insulation is installed between a ceiling and the underside of the roof sheathing, a space shall be provided between the insulation and the sheathing, and vents shall be installed to permit the movement of air from the space to the exterior.

9.19.1.2. Required Venting

(2) Where the roof slope is less than 1 in 6 or in roofs that are unobstructed with roof joists, the unobstructed vent area shall be not less than 1/150 of the insulated ceiling area.

(3) Required vents are permitted to be roof type, eave type, gable-end type or any combination of them, and shall be distributed,

(a) uniformly on opposite sides of the building,

(b) with not less than 25% of the required openings located at the top of the space, and

(c) with not less than 25% of the required openings located at the bottom of the space.

(4) Except where each roof joist space referred to in Sentence (2) is separately vented, roof joist spaces shall be interconnected by installing purlins not less than 38 mm (1½ in) by 38 mm (1½ in) on the top of the roof joists.

(5) Vents shall comply with CAN3-A93-M, "Natural Airflow Ventilators for Buildings".

9.19.1.3. Clearances

(1) Except as provided in Sentence (2), where venting is provided to a roof joist space, not less than 63 mm (2½ in) of space shall be provided between the top of the insulation and the underside of the roof sheathing.

(3) Ceiling insulation shall be installed in a manner that will not restrict a free flow of air through roof vents or through any portion of the attic or roof space.

OBJECTIVE

Cross purlins, as described in Sentence (4) are required to ensure adequate ventilation throughout roofs without attic spaces. This commonly includes flat roofs and cathedral ceilings.

In locations where each roof joist space is separately vented cross purlins are not required.

Placement of ventilation openings is required to be not less than 25% at the top of the space and 25% at the bottom of the space.

Refer to the illustration below for details.

