



# **TECHNICAL BULLETIN**

## **PERMIT AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT**

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### ***Measurement of Attic Head Height***

#### **INTRODUCTION**

California Building Code (CBC) Section 1505.1 states that: An attic access opening shall be provided to attics of building with combustible ceiling or roof construction. There is an exception to this requirement for attics with a maximum vertical height of less than 30 inches. The purpose of this Technical Bulletin is to clarify how the 30 inches is to be measured.

#### **TECHNICAL DETAILS**

In framed attic spaces where the rafter spacing is less than or equal to 48 inches, attic height shall be measured from the top of the ceiling joists (or attic flooring if present) to the bottom of the rafters. In non-framed attic spaces or framed attic spaces where rafter spacing exceeds 48 inches, attic height shall be measured to the bottom of the roof sheathing.

Note that if conduit bodies, junction, pull, or outlet boxes are located in an attic, access must be provided which does not require removing any part of the building.

#### **REFERENCES**

California Building Code, Section 1505.1  
California Electrical Code, Section 370.29

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