

Insulation in existing residential attic

Pre-Consult inspection

The permit holder shall call a pre-consultation inspection to check the roof structure and wiring type before work begins.

Roof structure

Where insulation increases the accumulation of snow, and the snow load capacity of the roof structure is exceeded, the roof members shall be upgraded to withstand the additional loads. Salt Lake City Code 18.50.240.A2

Knob-and-tube wiring

Concealed knob-and-tube wiring shall not be used in the following: ... Hollow spaces of walls, ceilings, and attics where such spaces are insulated by loose, rolled, or foamed-in-place insulating material that envelops the conductors. 2014 NEC 394.12.

Clearance to can lights

Thermal insulation shall not be installed above a recessed luminaire or within 3 inches (76 mm) of the recessed luminaire's enclosure, wiring compartment, ballast, transformer, LED driver or power supply except where such luminaire is identified for contact with insulation, Type IC. 2015 IRC E4004.9

Extend insulation shield around vents

... an insulation shield constructed of [26 gage] steel ... shall be installed to provide clearance between the vent and the insulation material. ... the shield shall terminate not less than 2 inches (51 mm) above the insulation materials and shall be secured in place to prevent displacement... 2015 IRC G2426.4.

Maintain roof ventilation

Where eave or cornice vents are installed, insulation shall not block the free flow of air... 2015 IRC R806.3. For air-permeable insulations in vented attics, a baffle shall be installed adjacent to soffit and eave vents. Baffles shall maintain an opening equal or greater than the size of the vent. The baffle shall extend over the top of the attic insulation. The baffle shall be permitted to be any solid material. 2015 IRC N1102.2.3.

Ceiling attic access baffle

... A wood-framed or equivalent baffle or retainer is required to be provided when loose-fill insulation is installed, the purpose of which is to prevent the loose-fill insulation from spilling into the living space when the attic access is opened, and to provide a permanent means of maintaining the installed R-value of the loose-fill insulation. 2015 IRC N1102.2.4

Insulation identification

... the insulation installers shall provide a certification listing the type, manufacturer and R-value of insulation installed in each element of the building thermal envelope. For blown or sprayed insulation (fiberglass and cellulose), the initial installed thickness, settled thickness, settled R-value, installed density, coverage area and number of bags installed shall be listed on the certification... The insulation installer shall sign, date and post the certification in a conspicuous location on the job site. 2015 IRC N1101.10.1.

The thickness of blown-in or sprayed roof/ceiling insulation (fiberglass or cellulose) shall be written in inches (mm) on markers that are installed at least one for every 300 square feet (28 m²) throughout the attic space. The markers shall be affixed to the trusses or joists and marked with the minimum initial installed thickness with numbers not less than 1 inch (25 mm) in height. Each marker shall face the attic access opening. Spray polyurethane foam thickness and installed R-value shall be listed on certification provided by the insulation installer. 2015 IRC N1101.10.1.1.