



Ventilation of Unheated Attics or Cathedral Ceiling Rafter Cavities

Owens Corning's RAFT-R-MATE product is a polystyrene sheet shaped to prevent attic or rafter cavity insulation (batt or blown) from covering eave or soffit vents, or from expanding to fill cavity airways and restricting airflow. Typically building codes require that every enclosed attic or insulated rafter cavity space be provided with a minimum amount of ventilation. Ventilation is typically provided by some combination of gable, ridge and soffit vents. Inadequate ventilation may lead to excess heat and humidity in the attic or rafter cavity. These conditions may lead to the deterioration of the roofing materials and deck, insulation, structural framing members, or interior ceiling finishes.

Required Vent Area

For attics, codes typically specify required vent area as a percentage, or ratio, of the attic area, often in the range of 1/150. The required vent area can often be reduced if the vent area provided is divided between high and low vents such as at the roof ridge (high), and at the soffit (low). The reduction is often in the range of 1/300. Check local building codes for specific ventilation requirements.

For rafter cavity spaces, codes typically specify a required minimum air space, often 1", between the insulation and the roof sheathing. Check local building codes for specific requirements.

RAFT-R-MATE Rafter Vents

- Maintain ventilation through thickest part of insulation
- Reduce heating and cooling costs
- Improve year-round comfort
- Increase the life of the roof
- Are durable and break-resistant
- Resist moisture; will not rot or deteriorate
- Install quickly and easily
- Work in both new and retrofit construction



Product Data

Material

Extruded polystyrene rigid foam

Packaging

Size	22½" x 48"
Vents per bag	50

Installation

Installed properly against the underside of the roof deck, between roof trusses or rafters, RAFT-R-MATE will provide in excess of a 1" air space. Fibrous insulation can be installed directly against the surface of RAFT-R-MATE and RAFT-R-MATE will maintain a free airflow channel from the eave vent to the ridge or gable vents. Due to its symmetrical design, RAFT-R-MATE can be split in half for 12" o.c. rafter spacing, or if required for retrofit or cathedral ceiling applications.

Installing Loosefill or Batt Insulation on Attic Floors

1. A single 4' length of RAFT-R-MATE should be installed in each rafter or truss space, at the ceiling line, to insure that the airway between soffit and attic space remains open.
2. The vent should extend some distance beyond the top of the horizontal fibrous insulation.

Installing Rafter Cavity Insulation in Cathedral Ceilings

1. Install RAFT-R-MATE in each rafter cavity beginning at the soffit area, to assure the vent remains open, and continue up the cavity to the ridge vent or to a common air space.
2. RAFT-R-MATE should be installed with an approximate 2" gap between the ends of adjacent pieces to allow moisture to escape more readily into the air channel.
3. Install cavity batt insulation such that the ends of the insulation do not occur in the area of the 2" gap. This precaution minimizes the potential of the insulation expanding into the air channel and restricting airflow.

RAFT-R-MATE® Attic Rafter Vents

Note: When prolonged outdoor cold temperatures, or higher interior humidity conditions are expected, a vapor retarder, such as 4 mil sheet polyethylene, should be installed on the warm side of the rafter batt to reduce the intrusion of moisture into the attic or rafter cavity.

Note to Builders and Consumers:

Always check with your local building department for required ventilation area in attics and rafter cavities, requirements for vapor retarders, and the acceptability of RAFT-R-MATE for the planned application.

Technical Information

(800) 828-7155

Export Sales Office

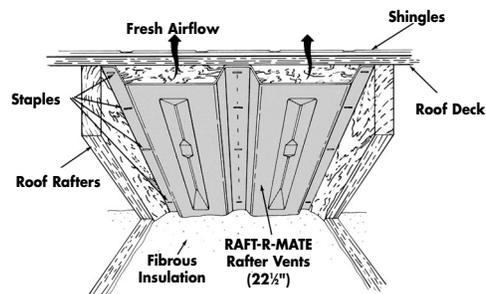
(330) 633-1105

For more information on the Owens Corning family of home building products, contact your Owens Corning dealer or call: 1 - 8 0 0 - G E T - P I N K .

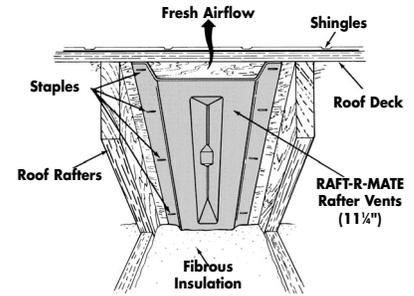
Caution

Combustible. RAFT-R-MATE attic rafter vents will ignite if exposed to fire of sufficient heat and intensity.

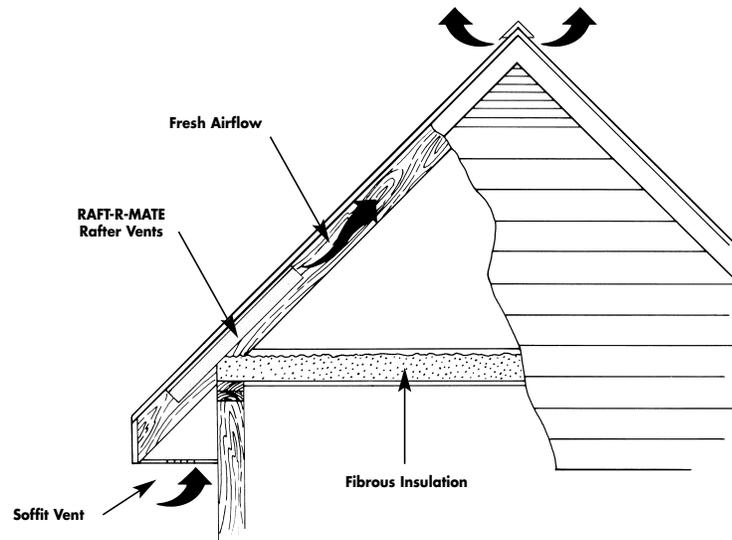
New Construction



Retrofit Construction



Install with a 2" gap between adjacent pieces.



INNOVATIONS FOR LIVING™

OWENS CORNING WORLD HEADQUARTERS

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1-800-GET-PINK www.owenscorning.com

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