



Attic Installation Tips:

Getting started:

Installing Reach Barrier in the attic is a great DIY project and with the proper tools, a little practice and some professional tips most people can do it and reap great financial benefits.

There are two typical ways to install Reach Barrier in the attic. One way is to cut the material in sections and simply lay it out on top of the existing insulation (better for cold climate regions). The more preferred method and the one covered in these instructions involve stapling the barrier to the bottom of the roof joists creating a Reach Barrier “tent” inside your attic. This method is preferred for several reasons:

1. The entire attic is made cooler/warmer (not just the living space below).
2. The attic space remains more “useable” after installation.
3. The Barrier is less effected by dust accumulation
4. Air Conditioning equipment and ductwork within the attic benefit from the more consistent temperatures.

Must Have Tools:

- Staple Gun
- Utility knife & Scissors
- Light(s)

Good to Have Tools:

- Shop Light
- Head Lamp
- Measuring tape
- Dust Mask
- Safety Glasses
- Ladders
- Reach Pole
- Small sheets of plywood to walk on



General Tips:

- Safety first: Use common sense when working on ladders or in attic spaces. Remember, drywall is not strong enough to hold your weight. It is very easy to find yourself dangling in the living room or worse!
- Some find it easier unrolling sections of the Reach Barrier on the ground and cutting it into specific lengths before taking it up into the attic. For some, smaller, lighter pieces may be easier to manage in a tight attic space.
- Working with a buddy makes the job go twice as fast and half as difficult. While one stretches material the other can staple.
- Be careful when working around electrical lines and power cords as aluminum conducts electricity. Keep your eyes open for exposed wiring or uncapped electrical boxes.

Installing Reach Barrier in the Attic

Stapled to bottom of roof joists:

This method is generally considered the best method in the warmer areas of the country for the reasons stated previously.

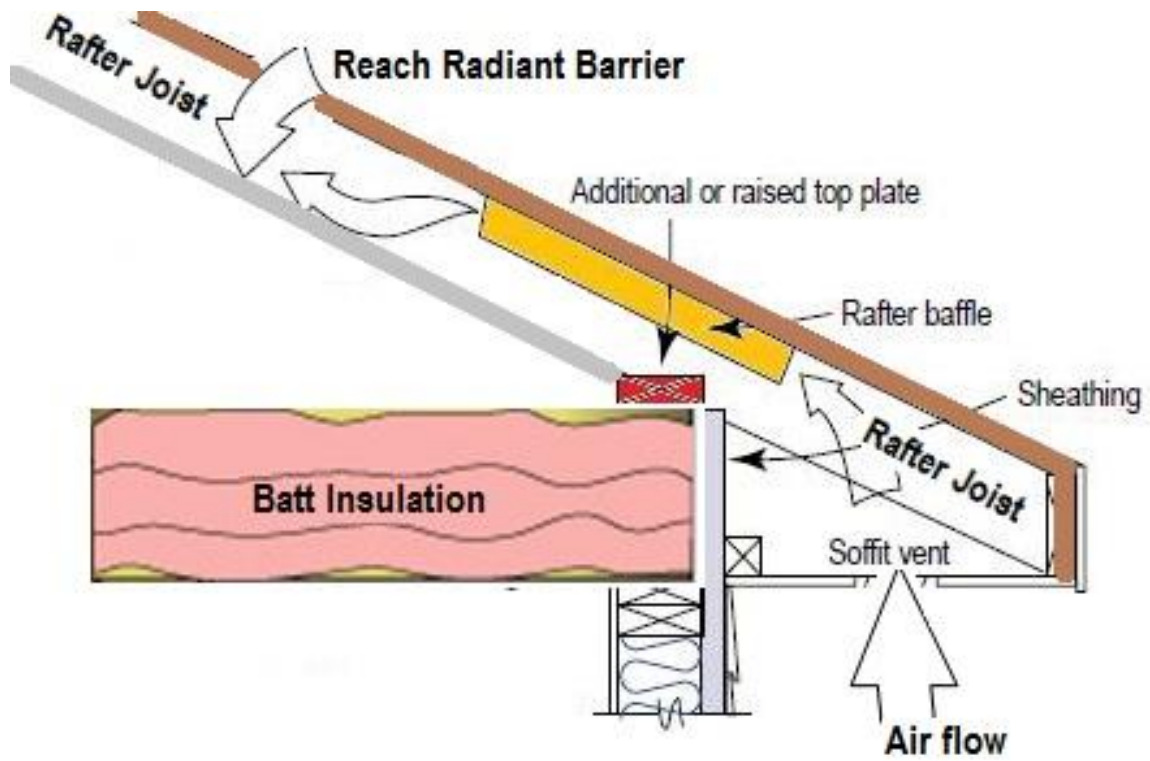
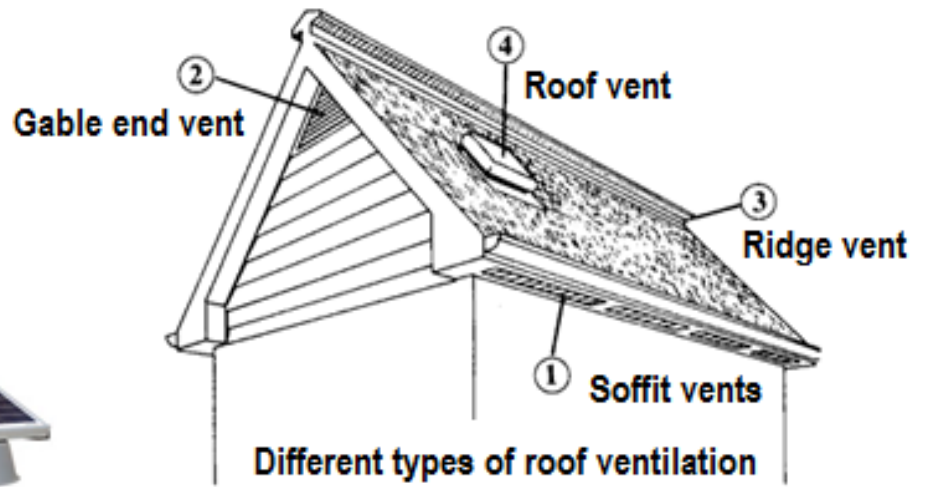
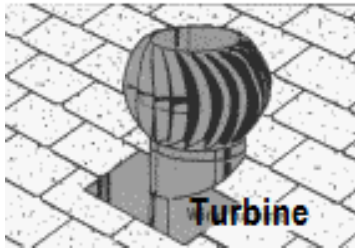
This method can be used whether your attic contains conventional framing or prefabricated truss framing. Although, prefabricated trusses do require more cutting and taping.



1. Reach Barrier's perforated radiant barrier is the best used for all types of attic installations.



2. Begin the installation using strips of Reach Barrier across the attic (perpendicular to the direction of the roof joists), overlapping each run by an inch or 2. Unroll the Reach Barrier, hold in place and staple as necessary to the bottom of roof joists. There is no "right" amount of staples to use.
3. The height of the inside of your attic, type of roof and ventilation all play a part in determining the best way to install your radiant barrier to receive the maximum benefit. It is important to not block the existing ventilation flow within your attic. Typically air flow enters the attic space through soffit vents on the outside portion of your roof and then the air follows the channel created by your roof joists until the air exits through whatever exhaust system the roof has: Ridge venting, turbines,





4. Cut around vertical bracing as necessary. Foil Tape can be used to patch up any slits you make in the foil to fit around these objects.
5. Cut a minimum of 1 inch clearance around any exhaust or flue pipes.
6. Cut small openings in the foil below existing roof vents to allow attic air to vent.
7. It is recommended to cover gable end walls as well.
8. There is no need to tape all the seams in this type of installation.
9. If you cannot safely reach to the very top of your attic peak you may use the “drop ceiling” technique to complete your installation.
10. For a drop ceiling install: continue stapling material as started above until the material is a foot or so above your head (and is high enough to enclose all your air conditioning air ducts). Then “drag” the material across from one side of the attic to the other and staple it off on the opposite side. If the gap is too wide causing a sag in the material use something to support it in the middle such as duct hanging strapping.



11. If you use a drop ceiling technique be sure to come back when finished to cut a few small vent holes to allow heat to escape.
12. Take your time and move carefully in your attic so as not injure yourself or your home by stepping through the floor of your attic. Remember, there is usually just a sheet of drywall/wallboard used as the flooring in your attic!



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