



AIRVENT UNIVERSITY LESSON PLAN

June 2025 Lesson Plan

Top 5 Questions from our Ask the Expert Seminars

The Q & A session is one of the most popular segments of our educational seminars *Attic Ventilation: Ask the Expert*. Here are the top 5 ASKED and ANSWERED questions from our most recent seminar season.



Question #5 is from our seminar in Austin, Texas. "When calculating the number of attic vents needed do you factor in either the roof pitch or the attic volume?"

Building Code does not factor in either roof pitch or attic volume, but AirVent does. Our calculating tools include 3 roof pitch ranges to choose from. Up to 6/12 roof pitch in which the number of vents are based on 1/150 airflow ratio (that's 1 square foot of Net Free Area for every 150 square feet of attic floor space); 7/12 to 10/12 roof pitch in which we increase the quantity of vents needed 20% to account for the larger volume in the attic; and finally 11/12 roof pitch and steeper in which we increase the quantity of vents needed by 30% to account for even more attic volume.

Question #4 is from our seminar in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. "Why wouldn't everyone use an internally filtered ridge vent or attic exhaust vent if it's available? Seems to me the internal weather filter would be beneficial in all climates, not just climates with harsh winter weather."

Internally filtered vents offer an extra layer of weather protection in all climates – protection from wind driven rain, snow, debris. Folks in harsher winter climates tend to recognize the need for the internal weather filter more than those in milder climates, but the filter offers protection in all climates. And the airflow reduction over decades of use is very minimal. There's third-party testing on our YouTube Channel showing the long-term airflow performance of vents that have an internal weather filter.



Question #3 is from Wichita, Kansas. "What's the best strategy to get insurance to stop asking us to reuse the attic vents after a storm because the insurance company says the vents look to be in good condition still?"

There are many reasons not to reuse the attic exhaust vents in the field of the roof including damage that can occur to the vents during the removal process. Show insurance the Technical Bulletin titled *Why Ventilation is Important* published by the Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers Association or ARMA for short. ARMA is the professional

association representing shingle manufacturers. That Technical Bulletin states:
"Replace the vents in the field of the roof every time a new roof is installed."

Question #2 was asked in Grand Rapids, Michigan. "What should the temperature in the attic be if the attic ventilation is properly balanced 50% intake and 50% exhaust?"

In the winter/colder months, the attic temperature should be as close to the outside ambient temperature as possible to help fight ice dams. This will help any snow on the roof to melt uniformly. In the summer/warmer months, the attic temperature should be no more than 20 degrees warmer than peak outside ambient temperature that day.



Question #1 is from our seminar in Raleigh, North Carolina. "From a supply chain/distribution perspective, should I start speaking up when I receive orders from roofing contractors or builders for both ridge vents and box vents to be installed on the same roofing project?"

Yes, please speak up. Explain to the customer that if it's a shared/common attic space avoid mixing different types of attic exhaust vents otherwise it short-circuits the airflow and could lead to weather infiltration. So, avoid mixing any of the 5 types of attic exhaust vents: Those 5 types are wind turbines, gable vents, box vents or off-ridge vents, power fans, and ridge vents.

The most efficient way to move air through an attic in an effort to fight heat buildup, moisture buildup, and ice dams is to have air enter at the lowest possible location near the eave/soffit and exit high at or near the roof peak with nothing in between. Explain to the customer that the vent manufacturers say, "Don't mix attic exhaust vents." The shingle manufacturers say, "Don't mix attic exhaust vents." And building code says in section R806 of the International Residential Code, *"Follow the vent manufacturers installation instructions."*

To test your knowledge about what you learned in the June 2025 Lesson Plan please take our short 5-question Pop Quiz.