

**Abington Township Fire Department**  
**Guideline for the Roof Ventilation Prop**



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This guideline shall serve as an overview for utilizing the Roof Ventilation Prop a/k/a the Chop-Out Prop.

The one story section of the 2007 Burn Building addition is provided with a roof ventilation simulation prop. This feature can be used with ground/roof ladders in the training of roof ventilation activities.

The roof of this area is provided with a 4 ft x 8 ft opening which accommodates a standard size piece of plywood. The opening is also arranged with roof rafters situated in joist hangers. This provides more of a realistic aspect for “sounding the roof” area when preparing to cut a roof opening.

The prop is covered with a “template” panel which is to remain in place when not in use. Do not cut this panel. When the prop is to be used, remove the template, setting such aside, and replace with a fresh piece of plywood. Spare pieces of plywood for this prop are kept in either the Drill Tower on the first floor or within the Storage Building.

When the training is concluded, place the template back over the roof opening.

The “roof rafters” are not fastened to the joist hangers. Should the rafters become deteriorated from the cutting operations, the rafters can be replaced with the spare pieces kept within the attic space. The deteriorated rafters can be discarded.

To add a degree of realism during this ventilation training, this prop may be used in conjunction with the cold smoke system. If this is the case, close all sectional valves except the attic space valve. This will allow the maximum amount of smoke to be delivered to this area.

Pieces of the plywood created with this training, along with other scrap which may be produced, is to be cleaned up and discarded into the dumpster after the training is completed.

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