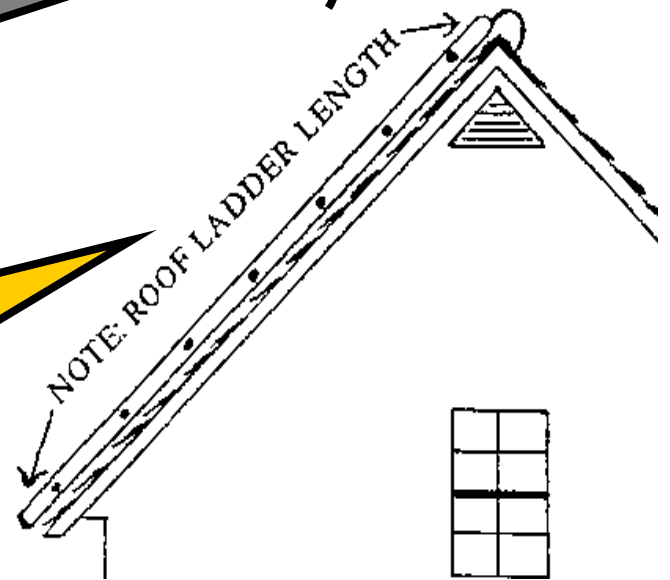


*60 Second Drills*

# Roof Ladders - Why?

For the Roof Ladder to be an effective safety device, it must span from the peak (ridge board) of the roof to past the exterior wall of the building and preferably past edge of the roof.



Lightweight Truss Roofs **DO NOT** have a Ridge Board. Roof Ladders will not provide any safety for firefighters operating on these roofs. Therefore, firefighters should use **EXTREME** caution while operating on a lightweight truss roof. Preferably, operate from an aerial ladder or tower basket.

The roof ladder is used on a peaked roof for three primary reasons:

- 1) To provide good footing for firefighters working on a sloped roof.
- 2) To spread the weight of the firefighters over a wider area over what may be an already weakened roof.
- 3) To span the strong points of the roof, ridge board to wall, in the event the roof decking is weakened by fire or if that portion of the roof fails, firefighters may be able to escape down the ladder.