10 attic storage tips (and what should never go up there)

An attic is the hottest, least-visited room in the house. Store only what can take 140°F, and keep a record good enough that you never have to climb up and check.

- [ ] **Have the framing checked; never cut or overload trusses**
- [ ] **Deck on 2×4 or 2×6 risers above the insulation**
- [ ] **Keep the soffit vents clear**
- [ ] **Store only heat-tolerant items**
- [ ] **Keep photos, paper, candles, electronics, batteries, aerosols and natural fibres out**
- [ ] **Use one size of rigid sealed tote, stacked no more than two high**
- [ ] **Put frequently used totes on the hatch platform**
- [ ] **Seal gaps around pipes, wires and vents**
- [ ] **Check for droppings twice a year**
- [ ] **Skip summer-afternoon trips**
- [ ] **Put a code on the hatch-facing end of every tote**
- [ ] **Photograph every open tote and record its zone**