

Plumbing Practice Note GF-03: Natural Gas Type A Installations- Gas Heating Appliance Installed in a Roof Space.

This Practice Note specifies the requirements for the installation requirements for gas heating appliances installed in a roof space.

The figures and context below provide guidance for:

- Location considerations
- Access for maintenance and servicing
- Platform protection



This Practice Note does not replace the requirements of AS/NZS 5601.1 therefore, gasfitters ensure they comply with the current version of AS/NZS 5601.1.

Where can I find the legal requirements for this type of installation?

The installation requirements for all appliances are covered in Section 5 of AS/NZS 5601.1

When installing gas heating appliances in a roof space, Clause 6.3.11 - Appliance in a Roof Space, provides specific requirements.

What location considerations must be given for this type of installation?

The roof section must be capable of supporting the additional load, and the weight of the installed appliance should not deform any part of the building structure.

The installation of the appliance must include lighting and access for servicing.

If the appliance cannot be safely accessed a permanent means of access is required to be provided.

Access for maintenance and servicing

The walkway to the appliance must be 600mm wide, with the service platform where required around the appliance to be at least 750mm wide. All platforms must be permanently fixed to the building and capable of supporting the weight of a person.

A permanent artificial light must be provided at the appliance with a switch located adjacent to the access opening.

Access clearances as stated in the manufacture's installation instructions must be provided for servicing and maintenance.

Ductwork must not restrict the required clearances for servicing or maintenance.

Platform protection

Where the appliance is to be installed on a combustibile platform and the appliance burner is less than 300mm above the appliance base, then:

- The platform must be covered with fire resistant material (refer Note 4) to the perimeter of the appliance base and 300mm beyond the base in front of any louvre or fixed opening into the burner compartment and there must be an air gap of 25mm min between the appliance base and fire-resistant; or
- The platform must be covered with corrosion resistant 0.6mm minimum thick sheet metal to the perimeter of the appliance base and 300mm beyond the base in front of any louvre or fixed opening into the burner compartment and there must be an air gap of 100mm min. between the sheet metal and the appliance base
- For further information, please refer to Additional Information, Note 5

Additional Information

1. Flue clearance from combustibile materials is critical. important. Gasfitters must ensure adequate flue clearances are maintained. Refer to AS/NZS 5601.1 Section 6 Clause 6.8.12. - Protection of combustibile surfaces
2. Locations of burner and fan openings will vary with different appliances.
3. Condensate drains on some high efficiency heating appliances will need to be installed as per manufacturer's instructions and drain to a suitable or approved location.
4. "Fire resistant material" is a defined term in AS/NZS 5601.1 and is required to prevent the transfer of heat (thermal conductivity) from the appliance to the platform. Further details to determine the rate of thermal conductivity are given in Appendix C of AS/NZS 5601.1 – Fire resistant materials and acceptable methods of protection of combustibile surfaces.
5. Some manufacturers may have an exemption to place the appliance on an unprotected surface due to the appliance design. Such exemptions would be identified by a data plate affixed to the appliance and in the manufacturer's instructions.

Related Documentation

- Plumbing Practice Note GF-01: Allowable leakage rates for existing standard gas installations with a metering pressure of 1.13 kPA
- Plumbing Practice Note GF-02: Type A Residential Cooking Appliances

Contact Us

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Version History

- Version 2.0, published 28 June 2021, supersedes Practice Note 92.05: Natural Gas Type A installations in a roof space

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