

Ventilation Testing Guide

In line with approved Document F, all new dwellings now require a ventilation test – this includes intermittent bathroom and kitchen extraction fans as well as whole house ventilation systems.

Tips to ensure a successful ventilation test*:

- ✓ Use short straight duct runs – longer, convoluted duct runs create more resistance, reducing the effectiveness of the extraction. Fans mounted on an exterior wall and ducted directly outside are generally most effective.
- ✓ Use rigid duct for smoother air passage compared to corrugated flexible duct, reducing air resistance and potential for being crushed or deformed.
- ✓ Use a wall sleeve where penetrating external walls, from the extraction fan through the wall to the vent grill.
- ✓ Ensure any joints in ducting are sealed and taped.
- ✓ Consider fan specifications - despite correct installation, many fans available will not achieve the required standard for new build properties.
- ✓ Consider using in-line fans – these are generally more powerful and offer improved extraction.

Common issues:

- Kitchen extractor fans not meeting the 30l/s requirement – this is often because these are sleeved down to 100mm. The 125mm or 150mm duct outlet supplied with most kitchen extraction should be maintained wherever possible.
- Utility extractor fans not meeting the 30l/s requirement (the same requirement as a kitchen fan). This is not normally possible using a 100mm duct size standard fan. The most effective way to meet the requirements is to fit a powerful 125mm or 150mm fan.

Please complete prior to ventilation test:

- All fans are fitted, with completed ducting and electrical wiring - extraction cannot be tested if a fan is not functional.
- All ducting core holes are drilled to outside – it may sound obvious, but a fan must extract to outside!



Should you have any further questions please don't hesitate to get in contact. We are always happy to discuss the testing or requirements in more detail.

For a more comprehensive assessment, we can also offer a pre-test site visit and consultancy with written report as part of a complete package, helping you get the best from your building.

*Please note; this document is for guidance only. It does not constitute legal advice and does not guarantee a pass during testing.

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