

19 - Ventilation of flueless gas heaters - installing a bayonet point

Your responsibilities when installing a bayonet point for a flueless gas heater if the appliance is not on site.

If you are installing a bayonet point for a flueless gas heater it is important that you comply with the required gas standard AS/NZS 5601.1-2010 for installations in South Australia (SA).

Additionally if the appliance is not on site, it is recommended that you proceed as follows to protect yourself from any potential future action under the Gas Act (SA) 1997.

Is the room a suitable location

Firstly, check to see that a flueless room heater can be installed in the area in which the connection is to be made and establish the room is not a prohibited location ie, bedroom, bathroom, toilet or a combined living sleep area.

- Calculate the volume of each room (in cubic metres) in which you are to install a bayonet fitting. Where open archways exist from one room or space to another the combined volume can be calculated as for one room.
- Multiply the volume by both 0.2 for heaters without a thermostat and 0.4 for heaters with a thermostat, to calculate the maximum rating of flueless heater of each type that can be safely and legally used in that room. Note this information on your COC and advise the owner/occupier so that they can source a heater matching the rating.
- **Refer to Appendix N, Clause N3.2 of the new standard.** Where a quick connect device socket is installed for the future connection of a flueless heater and the capacity is unknown, the room is required to have two ventilation openings installed, one at high level and one at low level. Each opening is required to have a minimum free area of 25,000 mm² (250cm²).

What does this mean for you

if you are asked to install bayonet points only and the heater has not yet been purchased then you must advise your client that you have to install 250cm² vents at high and low level direct to atmosphere.

If your client does not want 250cm² vents installed then you have three options -

1. Wait until the correct size flueless heater is on site and install the bayonet point and correct ventilation for that heater,
2. Discuss options for your client to install alternative heating eg, fan assisted room sealed gas heating or alternatively
3. Walk away from the job.

Failure to carry out these steps may leave you liable when a flueless heater is connected to the bayonet point that you have provided and, subsequently, the occupants experience health problems due to the operation of an oversized appliance or lack of ventilation.

More information

For more information please visit the Office of the Technical Regulator (OTR) website sa.gov.au/otr