Solid and Liquid Fuel Burners



Useful information on installing heaters







Do I need a Building Consent?

You need a building consent to install or move solid and liquid space heaters, such as wood, pellet or diesel burners.

A full plan of the house needs to be provided with your application. The plan needs to show where the heater will be and where the smoke detectors are installed. It also needs to include any sleepouts on the site and, if an oil burner is used, the location of the storage tank.

Your appliance can be installed after your application has been approved. Give us a call when the installation is done and we'll come out to check that the heater is safe to use. In most cases only one inspection is needed to confirm this.

Once you have passed the inspection, you can apply for a code compliance certificate. Once issued, this certificate means that you can start using your new appliance.



Which heaters don't need a building Consent?

Fixed electric space heaters, including heat pumps, do not require a building consent but must be installed by registered electricians who certify their own work.

Can I install a secondhand burner?

Yes. The appliance will need to be recertified by the manufacturer or an approved heating engineer to show that it is in good condition and complies with Environment Canterbury's emission requirements. This report must be provided with your building consent application and include the age of the burner; anticipated life expectancy; and the condition of the fire box, door and other parts.

A new flue will need to be installed.

If you're unsure, feel free to contact us to check the suitability of the second-hand burner.



Proposed Measures

2015:

- Installation of low emitting burners into new homes is not allowed
- Use of older style burners is not allowed
- Use of low emitting burners is allowed for up to 15 years or until 2019 (whichever is later)

2019:

 From 1 January 2019 any new burner installed must be an ultra low emitting burner

Wood burners over 15 years

If your wood burner is older than 15 years, it may not meet modern regulations. Check Environment Canterbury's website ecan.govt.nz or call (03) 353 9007 or 0800 324 636 (0800 EC INFO) to find out the age of your solid fuel burner and whether it can still be used.

Please take note of ECan's clean air rules for Ashburton.



Before you apply for a building consent, check that you have:

- A completed building consent application form.
- Installation instructions, including clearance information, for the solid fuel heater fire box and flue or liquid fuel storage tank.
- A written schedule confirming the building work will comply with the New Zealand Building Code.
- Details of whether the burner will heat your hot water. If it will, you'll need to provide water booster information and plumbing specifications.
- An approved heating engineer's report (for a second-hand burner).

Ask us for a comprehensive checklist when you pick up a building consent application form.

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If you have any questions, we're here to help. You can call us on **03 307 7700** or email **building@adc.govt.nz**



