



Approval of **Type A gas appliances**

How to obtain approval to sell, hire or use
Type A (domestic or commercial) gas
appliances in Western Australia



Contents

Introduction	2
Definitions and terms	2
Regulatory framework for gas appliances	3
Types of gas appliances and approval requirements	3
Domestic and commercial gas appliances	3
Series or mass-produced gas appliances	4
Individual and custom-built Type A gas appliances	4
Large commercial and industrial gas appliances	4
Approval of domestic and commercial gas appliances	5
Series or mass produced gas appliances	6
Individual and custom-built gas appliances	8
Second hand and used gas appliances	9
Modified gas appliances	9
Further information	10
Appendix – List of Type A gas appliances	12

Introduction

Manufacturers, retailers, hirers and users that sell, hire or use gas appliances are required by legislation to ensure that the appliances they supply or use have been approved. Such approval ensures the appliances are safe and suitable for use in Western Australia.

The purpose of this document is to assist manufacturers, retailers, hirers and users that sell, hire or use Type A gas appliances (domestic and commercial gas appliances) to understand why the appliances need to be approved before they can be sold, installed or used in Western Australia. The document also explains the approval processes that apply.

Definitions and terms

Director of Energy Safety means the head of Building and Energy who is appointed under Section 5 of the *Energy Coordination Act 1994*.

Type A gas appliance means a gas appliance of a class or type as listed in regulation 42B of the Gas Standards (Gasfitting and Consumer Gas Installations) Regulations 1999. These appliances are mainly domestic or commercial gas appliances and have a maximum hourly gas input of 1,000MJ (megajoules). A list of Type A gas appliances from regulation 42B is included as an appendix to this document.

Type A gas appliance inspector means an inspector designated by the Director of Energy Safety to inspect and approve Type A gas appliances.

Registered gas fitter means a person who has been issued with a permit or certificate of competency to carry out work on a consumer's gas installation. A Class G licence classification applies to domestic and commercial work.

Gas consumption means the rate of energy consumed by an appliance under specific conditions and is expressed in megajoules per hour (MJ/h).

Certifying body means an organisation recognised by the Director of Energy Safety to certify gas appliances and components.

Regulatory framework for gas appliances

In Western Australia (WA), legislation exists to ensure the safety of gas installations and appliances. The legislation includes the *Gas Standards Act 1972* (the Act) and the Gas Standards (Gasfitting and Consumer Gas installations) Regulations 1999 (the regulations). Copies of the Act and regulations can be obtained from the State Law Publisher. The legislation can also be viewed online at www.legislation.wa.gov.au.

Building and Energy, a division of the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, is the State's regulatory agency that administers the legislation.

Types of gas appliances and approval requirements

Domestic and commercial gas appliances

Domestic and commercial gas appliances generally fall under the category of a Type A appliance and include water heaters, space heaters and commercial catering equipment.

The sale of all domestic and commercial gas appliances is prohibited under the Act unless the Director of Energy Safety has approved the appliance and the appliance is marked or labelled in an approved manner.

The approval is subject to the Director being satisfied that the person who intends to sell, hire or use the appliance has satisfactorily demonstrated that the appliance is safe for use.

The approval processes for new domestic and commercial gas appliances are:



Mass produced domestic gas appliance - gas space heater

Series or mass-produced gas appliances

Assessment by an independent certifying body that the gas appliance or component complies with relevant Australian safety standards. This is achieved through detailed laboratory testing based on the requirements contained in the relevant standards, appraisal of test reports by the certifying body and badging of the appliance. A verification process carried out by that certifying body ensures ongoing manufacturing compliance. The Director recognises, through the publication of a notice in the Government Gazette, competent certifying bodies for the approval of series or mass-produced gas appliances and components.

Individual and custom-built Type A gas appliances

Involves specific approval by a Type A gas appliance inspector and the attachment of an approval badge.

Large commercial and industrial gas appliances

Large commercial and industrial gas appliances generally fall under the category of a Type B gas appliance (not of the type specified in regulation 42B of the regulations and having a gas consumption of 10MJ/h or greater) and are subject to individual approval. This approval process is outside the scope of this document. Further information on the Type B appliance approval process can be obtained from Building and Energy's document Guidelines for approval of Type B (Industrial) gas appliances which can be viewed online at www.dmirs.wa.gov.au.



Individual and custom-built industrial gas appliance – pot cooker

Approval of domestic and commercial gas appliances

An approval certification badge on a series or mass produced gas appliance, or on an individual or custom-built gas appliance, confirms that a product has been tested to accepted safety standards and meets the approval requirements of the Director as provided for in the legislation.

It is an offence under the Act to sell, hire or advertise for sale/hire a gas appliance without first meeting the approval requirements of the Director and having the appliance badged. There is a maximum penalty of \$250,000 for such an offence.

The national Australian Certification Scheme ensures series or mass produced appliances undergo a detailed safety assessment including testing for compliance with the relevant standards and codes. The certification-marking scheme, which is described later in this document, provides the means by which a user can be assured of the validity of a manufacturer's claim that an appliance has an adequate standard of gas safety.

A WA specific appliance approvals process ensures individual and custom-built appliances are inspected for compliance with relevant standards and codes to ensure they are safe and suitable for installation and use in WA. A Type A gas appliance inspector tests an appliance for compliance and attaches an approval badge following the inspection and testing.

The Application for Certification of a Type A Gas Appliance form can be obtained either from a Type A gas appliance inspector or from our website.

The owner of the appliance is responsible for negotiating a fee and paying the gas appliance inspector for the cost of certifying the appliance.

This WA specific approvals process provides the means by which owners, manufacturers or agents of imported individual appliances, custom-built appliances or appliances for which market potential is to be ascertained, can be assured that the appliance has been satisfactorily tested to acceptable standards of gas safety.

Series or mass produced gas appliances

Series or mass produced Type A gas appliances and components must be certified as approved for sale, hire or use in WA.

The Australian Gas Association (AGA) National Product Certification Scheme, the SAI Global Gas Safety Certification Scheme, the Global-Mark Certification Scheme, the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO R&T Oceana) Certification Scheme and VIPAC Certification Scheme are currently recognised by the Director as competent bodies for the purpose of certifying series or mass produced Type A gas appliances and components for approval.

The appliances are labelled with a certification badge (refer Figure 1 for AGA badges, Figure 2 for the SAI Global badge, Figure 3 for the Global-Mark badges, Figure 4 for the IAPMO R&T Oceana badge and Figure 5 for the VIPAC badges). The AGA, SAI Global, Global-Mark, IAPMO R&T Oceana or VIPAC badges are placed only on new appliances that have AGA, SAI Global, Global-Mark, IAPMO R&T Oceana or VIPAC certification respectively.

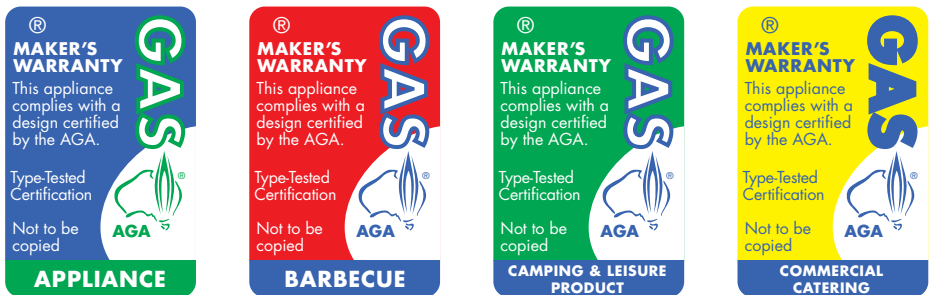


Figure 1: AGA certification badges



Figure 2: SAI Global certification badge



Figure 3: Global-Mark certification badges



Figure 4: IAPMO R&T Oceana certification badge



Figure 5: VIPAC certification badges

Lists of certified gas appliances can be viewed online as follows:

Australian Gas Association – www.gas.asn.au

SAI Global – www.saiglobal.com.au

Global-Mark – www.global-mark.com.au

IAPMO R&T Oceana – www.iapmooceana.org

VIPAC – www.vipac.com.au

Individual and custom-built gas appliances

If appliances do not have AGA, SAI Global, Global-Mark, IAPMO R&T Oceana or VIPAC certification, then they must be individually approved by a Type A gas appliance inspector and have an approval badge (refer Figure 6).

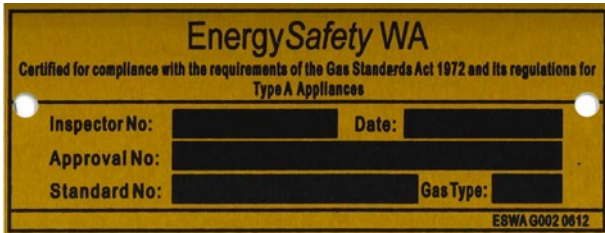


Figure 6: Approval badge issued by a Type A gas appliance inspector

A list of independent Type A gas appliance inspectors available to carry out certification of individual Type A appliances may be viewed on our website at www.dmirs.wa.gov.au.

A Type A gas appliance inspector may approve a limited number of Type A appliances that fall under the following categories:

- individual appliances imported by their owners from overseas or interstate;
- individual appliances imported by a manufacturer or agent for evaluation;
- custom-built or rarely manufactured appliances; and
- individual appliances for which market potential is to be ascertained.

Gas appliances in each of the above categories must be individually approved before they are installed or used. The approval procedure involves:

- the owner engaging a gas fitter to check and ensure the gas appliance conforms with the relevant Australian standard; and
- the owner or the gas fitter submitting an application for approval of the particular gas appliance to a Type A gas appliance inspector.

The Type A gas appliance inspector inspects and tests the particular appliance to appropriate Australian standards and ensures it is safe and suitable for installation and use in WA. Upon successful testing, the gas appliance inspector attaches an approval badge to the appliance.

Following certification, if the certified appliance is a portable type, the consumer can then use it.

If the certified appliance needs to be installed, then a registered gas fitter must be engaged to carry out the installation and commissioning of the appliance before the consumer can use it.

Second hand and used gas appliances

The Act does not distinguish between new or used gas appliances. If a second hand or used appliance does not have an AGA, SAI Global, Global-Mark, IAPMO R&T Oceana or VIPAC certification badge or an approval badge fixed by a Type A gas appliance inspector, then it cannot be sold, hired or used.

An appliance badge provides assurance that the appliance was satisfactorily tested when new. If the appliance does not have a badge and the history or origin of the appliance is unknown, it must be tested and badged by a Type A gas appliance inspector for compliance with the relevant standards, to ensure that it operates safely before it is sold or hired and used.

Modified gas appliances

If the design of an approved gas appliance is modified during or following manufacture, the changes may affect the safety of the appliance. Therefore, modifying an appliance will require the appliance to be re-approved and badged by a Type A gas appliance inspector.

Conversion of the appliance to operate on a different gas is considered to be a modification. If a manufacturer's approved conversion kit is not used, the appliance must be approved and re-badged after the conversion is carried out.

When a manufacturer's approved conversion kit is used, a Type A gas appliance inspector's approval or recertification (badging) of the appliance is not required as the appliance, at the time of the original certification, was approved for both natural gas and a specific LP Gas type.

Further information

This document gives a summary of the gas appliance approval process to assist manufacturers, retailers, hirers and users of gas appliances to understand the purpose and processes for gas appliance approvals in WA. Specific requirements are set out in the legislation and, from time to time, in the Government Gazette.

For further more detailed appliance approval information, please contact:

Principal Engineer Gas Utilisation

Building and Energy

303 Sevenoaks Street
Cannington WA 6107

Phone: +61 8 6251 1900

Website: www.dmirs.wa.gov.au

The Australian Gas Association (AGA)

66 Malcolm Road
(PO Box 122)
Braeside VIC 3195

Phone: +61 3 9580 4500

Fax: +61 3 9580 5500

Email: office@aga.asn.au

Website: www.aga.asn.au

SAI Global

Level 37, 680 George St
Sydney NSW 2000

Phone: 131 242 or +61 2 8206 6000

Fax: 1300 654 949 or +61 2 9210 0784

Email: product@saiglobal.com

Website: www.saiglobal.com/product-certification

IAPMO R&T Oceana (The International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials) trading as IAPMO Oceana

1040 Dandenong Road
Carnegie VIC 3163

Phone: +61 3 8684 9580

Fax: +61 3 9572 5199

Email: quotes@iapmooceana.org

Website: www.iapmooceana.org

Global-Mark Pty Ltd

Suite 4.07 - 32 Delhi Road
North Ryde NSW 2113

Phone: +61 2 9886 0222
Email: GasSafety@Global-Mark.com.au
Website: www.Global-Mark.com.au

VIPAC Certification Services

279 Normanby Road
Port Melbourne VIC 3207

Phone: +61 1300 847 222
Fax: +61 3 9646 4370
Email: melbourne@vipac.com.au
Website: www.vipac.com.au

Copies of legislation can be obtained online from www.legislation.wa.gov.au
or by contacting:

State Law Publisher

10 William Street
Perth WA 6000

Phone: +61 8 6552 6000
Fax: +61 8 9321 7536
Email: sales@dpc.wa.gov.au

Appendix – List of Type A gas appliances

List of Type A gas appliances from regulation 42B of the Gas Standards (Gasfitting and Consumer Gas installations) Regulations 1999.

1.	Domestic cooking appliances
2.	Domestic space heating appliances having a maximum input rate of 150MJ/h
3.	Domestic refrigerators
4.	Domestic outdoor barbecue grillers
5.	Water heaters
6.	Swimming pool heaters
7.	Commercial catering equipment - boiling tables, open and closed top
8.	Catalytic space heaters having a maximum input rate of 20MJ/h
9.	Domestic decorative gas log fires having a maximum input rate of 72MJ/h
10.	Incinerating toilets
11.	Cooking, lighting, or heating appliances that use LP Gas and are designed for outdoor use
12.	Commercial catering equipment - salamanders and grillers
13.	Commercial catering equipment - solid griller plates, griddles
14.	Commercial catering equipment - barbecue grillers
15.	Commercial catering equipment - ovens
16.	Commercial catering equipment - boiling water units
17.	Commercial catering equipment - stock pots
18.	Commercial catering equipment - atmospheric steamers
19.	Commercial catering equipment - fryers
20.	Commercial catering equipment - food warmers, Bain-Marie
21.	Commercial catering equipment - convection ovens
22.	Laundry dryers
23.	Overhead heaters
24.	Industrial mobile air heaters
25.	Indirect fired air heaters
26.	Air conditioning units

Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety

Building and Energy

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National Relay Service: 13 36 77

Mailing address: Locked Bag 14 Cloisters Square WA 6850

Website: www.dmirs.wa.gov.au/energysafety

Email: energysafety@dmirs.wa.gov.au

Regional offices

Goldfields/Esperance (08) 9026 3250

Great Southern (08) 9842 8366

Kimberley (08) 9191 8400

Mid-West (08) 9920 9800

North-West (08) 9185 0900

South-West (08) 9722 2888

Available in other formats on request to assist people with special needs.