

Bulletin: Manual Shut-Off Valve Accessibility Requirements for Gas Appliances



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This Bulletin is for informational purposes only.

1. Topic

The following bulletin is intended to provide additional information where the CSA B149.1 Natural gas and propane installation code (the Gas Code) requires a **readily accessible** manual shut-off valve for individual gas appliances.

Gas Code definition:

Readily accessible: capable of being reached quickly for operation, renewal, servicing, or inspection, without requiring climbing over, or the removal of, an obstacle or the use of a portable ladder.

2. Important Information

In some cases, manual gas shut-off valves may be installed inside a gas appliance as opposed to in the drop or riser of the piping system serving the appliance. These valves, typically installed in decorative gas appliances such as a fireplace, may not be easily located or **readily accessible** for quick operation due to their location and the design of the appliance.

3. Requirement

Where accessing the mandatory manual shut-off valve requires the removal of any access panels, doors, or accessories (beyond the mesh screen) which require tools or specific knowledge of the disassembly of an appliance, an additional manual shut-off valve must then be provided in a **readily accessible** location.

Note: Where a remote individual manual shut-off valve is provided for a residential appliance within the maximum of 17m (50 Ft), these valves must then be identified as per Gas Code clause 6.18.2 (d) as to the appliance it services by means of either a metal tag attached to the valve, or a clearly legible sign displayed adjacent to the valve.

Additionally, some manufacturers also have specific requirements for a **readily accessible** manual shut-off valve within a maximum distance of the appliance in the appliance installation instructions .

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Note: This bulletin is provided with respect to regulated gas work in the City of Kelowna which falls within the City's jurisdiction and is not intended as guidance outside of the City's jurisdiction. For further information related to jurisdiction please see Technical Safety BC Information Bulletin [IB-GA-2018-01](#).