

Installation Protocol for House Pressurization Tests

House Pressurization Test (a.k.a. Blower Door Test) will be performed before the insert is installed, and then again after installation is complete. The purpose of the tests are to determine the effect of installing a direct vent insert on air infiltration in a home. The desired outcome is to show that installing an insert reduces the leakage of an existing house.

Inserts must be Direct Vent appliances.

- Follow the manufacturer's installation instructions for the appliance and venting system.
 - Follow all applicable national and local codes.
 - Always maintain required clearance to combustibles.
- Clean fireplace and chimney, per NFPA 211 - must be at least clean enough to get a good seal during installation.
- Lock or remove existing fireplace damper.
- Seal the Damper:
 - For masonry fireplaces, seal damper with high-temperature sealant.
 - For factory-built fireplaces, remove damper and seal damper holes.
- Seal the Ash Door at bottom of existing fireplace, if applicable.
- Seal Vent Flashing to top of chimney (refer to the vent manufacturer's instructions):
 - For masonry chimneys, install and seal direct vent flashing to top of chimney with weatherization sealant.
 - For factory-built chimneys, remove the existing chimney cap, and install and seal direct vent flashing or conversion component to existing chimney.
- Cover and seal any outside air vent used for the existing fireplace. Method should be reversible if needed for future use.
- Install full length liners for both the exhaust and air intake sides of the direct vent system (if air intake side is not full length, will cause problems with house leakage).
- Seal area around vent liners where they pass through the old damper / smoke shelf area.
- Seal any holes made for bringing in a gas line.
- Seal any other obvious openings that would negatively impact the House Pressurization Test, but not those that might adversely affect the safety and performance of the Appliances.