



Kitchen Grease Extract – Access Panels Guidance

Section 7 of TR/19 (Specific Considerations for Kitchen Extract Systems) provides specific guidance to the location of access panels (or doors) to kitchen grease extract systems for inspection purposes. Please see table below.

Section 7.15 Access panels should be fitted on either side of in-line components, as detailed in Table 8, to allow physical entry to clean these intricate surfaces. This Table includes components, such as fire dampers and attenuators, which are not normally recommended to be installed, but are often found in practice.

Table 8: Location of Access Panels for Cleaning and Inspection Purposes	
Volume Control Dampers	Both sides
Fire Dampers (see Note 7)	Both sides
Attenuators	Both sides
Changes in Direction	Both sides
Filter Sections	One side
Horizontal Ducts	Generally every 3 metres (see Note 2)
Risers	Top and bottom as a minimum (see Note 3)
Extract Fans	Both sides (see Note 4)
Discharge grille/mesh	One side (see Note 6)

Notes to Table 8

1. Additional builders work hatches may need to be fitted in ceilings/walls in existing installations, or provided for in new constructions. Consideration should also be given to safe high level access to external ductwork.
2. Access openings for cleaning purposes are generally required at a maximum of 3 metre centres and/or at each change of direction. This distance should be reduced where the size of the duct prevents adequate cleaning by hand, where there are several changes in direction or where other external features restrict the positioning of panels.
3. Internal kitchen extract risers often require access doors fitted on at least each floor level so that all internal surfaces can be reached and fire dampers, where fitted, cleaned and checked. In older buildings this may require additional builders works (e.g. hatches through brickwork) to reach the riser ducts.



4. Extract fan design should allow thorough cleaning of impellor blades and internal surfaces without the need for dismantling, i.e. ductwork with access panels should be provided immediately upstream and downstream. Larger fans should be designed with panels in the casing. Similarly, attenuators or other in-line fittings likely to obscure cleaning activity should be provided with access on both sides.
5. Guideline access frequency given above may be reduced where remote cleaning methods and personnel entry can be adequately applied. However, in all instances every section of ductwork should be capable of verification inspection.
6. Design consideration should be given to the provision of safe access to the downstream side of discharge grilles, bird guard mesh and louvers.
7. Fire dampers are not fitted in new installations, but may still be found in older systems.

Extracts from HVCA TR/19: Internal Cleanliness of Ventilation Systems (2005). Pgs.21 & 22