



MECHANICAL CODE MANUAL

MCM 701.0

04/01/03

COMBUSTION AIR – GAS APPLIANCES IN ENCLOSED AREAS

Chapter 7 of the County of Los Angeles Mechanical Code allows combustion air to be obtained from inside the room, if the volume of such room is equal to or greater than fifty (50) cubic feet per one thousand (1,000) BTU/h input rating of all fuel burning equipment contained therein [e.g.; appliances with a maximum input capacity of eighty thousand (80,000) BTU/h may be installed in a twenty (20) foot square garage with an average ceiling height of ten (10) feet – $20' \times 20' \times 10' = 4,000$ c.f.; 50 c.f. \times $80,000$ BTU/ $1,000$ BTU = 4000 c.f.; therefore, OK]. Excluded from this requirement are direct vent appliances, listed appliances with separate combustion systems, enclosed furnaces, listed cooking appliances, refrigerators, and domestic clothes dryers.

However, if the BTU/h rating of appliances exceed this ratio, a minimum of two (2) unobstructed combustion air openings to the outside must be provided. The minimum area of each opening is one (1) square-inch per each four thousand (4,000) BTU/h of maximum appliance input [e.g.: appliances with a one hundred thousand (100,000) BTU/h input would require twenty-five (25) square inches of combustion air per opening]. Such openings shall be within twelve (12) inches of the floor and within twelve (12) inches of the highest point of the ceiling and be covered with corrosion-resistant 1/4-inch mesh. The area of louvered openings shall be as shown on the louver or on the manufacturer data sheet. Use twenty-five (25) percent of the gross area of wood louvers and seventy-five (75) percent of the gross area of metal louvers.

Supercedes MCM 701 (1/96).

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