



A meter location guide

for residential and small business customers



Introduction

This guide outlines the permitted locations and positions for the installation of your natural gas meter and meter box when connecting to the natural gas network.

It is designed to help residential and small business customers (with a gas consumption of up to 73,300 kWhs) installing a new gas meter or moving an existing one. Gas Networks Ireland locate the meter externally where possible.

Meter box types

There are two types of meter boxes – surface mounted and recessed.

A **surface mounted** meter box is installed on the property or boundary wall. This meter box is more suitable for installation on older buildings converting to natural gas. The meter box will be provided by Gas Networks Ireland and will be fitted at a minimum of 300mm above finished ground level. The meter box will project 264mm outwards from the wall.

A **recessed** meter box is installed in the cavity wall of a building or in a pillar enclosure. This type of meter box is installed by a builder in a new one-off build or as part of a new extension. The box must be purchased from a building supplier and is not provided or installed by Gas Networks Ireland. If this type of meter box is damaged, Gas Networks Ireland will be unable to install the meter for safety reasons. The meter box must be built into the wall and not screwed or nailed on. The meter box will project 70mm outwards from the wall.



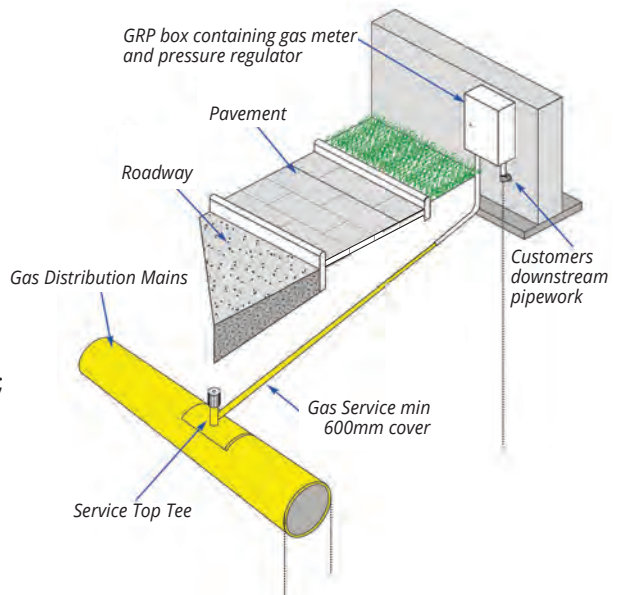
Meter location general rules

A service pipeline is laid by Gas Networks Ireland connecting a building to the natural gas network. The natural gas service pipeline must be laid in a straight line to the meter location, using the shortest most direct route and where possible at right angles to the gas main. It must also be laid with a minimum of 600mm of ground cover. The proposed route of the service pipe must be clear when the crew arrives to carry out the work, otherwise it cannot be installed.

If the meter box is to be attached to the property wall then it must be located above the damp proof course at a minimum of 300mm above finished ground level. A meter should not be placed within 300mm above, below or beside an electricity meter.

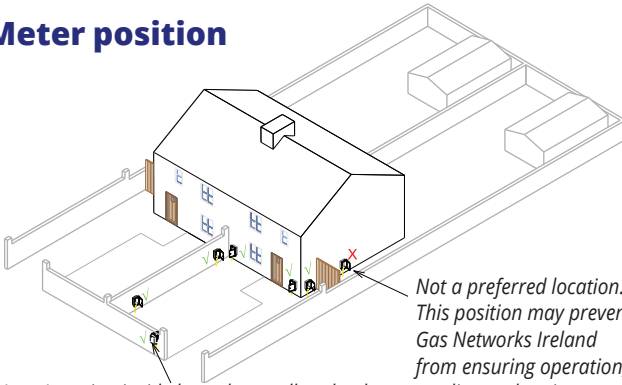


- Please note your agreed meter position upon payment is provisional, as it's subject to further review by our pre-construction officer and lay service (ground) crews, in advance of works commencing. If there are issues with underground services (e.g. Electricity, Telephone, Internet etc.) or the meter position does not adhere to the guidelines set in our Meter Locations guide; an alternative meter position will be required to proceed with your connection.



- If you wish to change your meter position in advance of the lay service (ground) works commencing, please let us know **at least two weeks** before your appointment date, by ringing **1800 50 40 60** and we will try our best to agree an alternative position.

Meter position



Note: Location inside boundary wall and only a recessed meter box can be fitted here

Not a preferred location. This position may prevent Gas Networks Ireland from ensuring operation, reading and maintenance of the meter installation.



Where to locate your meter

The meter box can be placed:

- At the front gable end wall, a maximum of 2 metres from the front corner of the building
- At the front wall of the building – on either side of the front door, or on either side of a sealed window
- On the boundary wall of the property.



Where not to locate your meter

The meter box must not be placed:

- At the back of the house or behind a gate
- Directly above drains, airbricks, manholes or an electricity meter
- Directly under appliance vents, windows that open or an electricity meter
- In a porch or under an overhang which is enclosed or could be enclosed
- Where it is liable to cause an obstruction e.g. wheelie bin, buggy etc. or be subject to vehicular damage
- Where access to the meter box may be restricted in an emergency e.g. narrow path less than 1 metre wide
- On a stone boundary wall or stone garden wall
- Adjacent to an electricity meter, if there is a suitable practical location for it elsewhere.



Internal meter

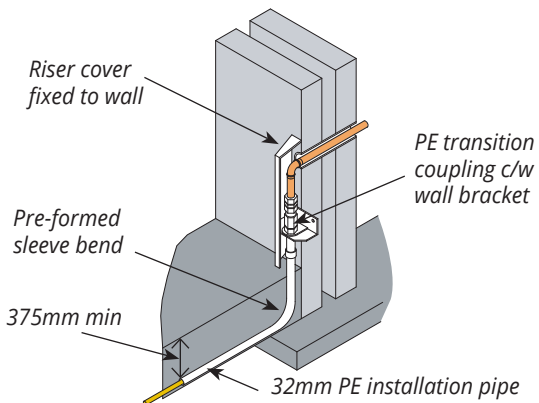
If a building is adjacent to a footpath (i.e. no garden etc.) the meter may be located inside the property subject to a low pressure gas connection being available. Where the meter is located internally, it should be located as close as possible to the gas entry point of the building.

An internal meter must not be placed:

- In close proximity to a heat source or where it may be subject to extremes of temperature
- Where food is stored or in bathrooms
- Where it might be affected by a corrosive atmosphere or liquid
- Where readily combustible material is stored
- In a void or compartment without normal air circulation.



Gas Entry Point



Meter under stairs

Generally, a meter should not be located on or under a stairway, in a common hallway, passageway, or any other part of the building that provides the sole means of escape. However, if there is no alternative, the following conditions must apply:

- The meter should be housed in a compartment made from a material that is fire resistant for at least two hours, that is ventilated directly to the outside of the building and which has an automatic self-closing door
- Internal pipework after the meter or meter regulator (if fitted) should be provided with a thermal cut-off device that activates when the temperature exceeds 95°C.

Reinstatement

Excavations in driveways, gardens, footpaths and roads will initially be temporarily reinstated. Gas Networks Ireland will return within 20 working days to carry out permanent reinstatement.



Typical Temporary Reinstatement



We cannot guarantee that the new concrete or tarmac will match, as the condition of existing driveways, footpaths and roads will have weathered over time.

Once the service pipe has been laid to the agreed meter position, any subsequent change will incur a charge - see our Alterations Guide for further details.



Typical Permanent Reinstatement



The main contact details for Gas Networks Ireland are:

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General Enquiries

1800 464 464

Lines open Monday to Friday 8am – 8pm
and Saturday 9am – 5.30pm

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24hr Emergency Service

1800 20 50 50

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networksinfo@gasnetworks.ie

[@GasNetIRL](https://twitter.com/GasNetIRL)

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gasnetworks.ie

This leaflet is also available to view in plain text on our website.