



GAS COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS

The high cost of electricity as well as frequent bouts of loadshedding has prompted many South African homeowners to implement gas installations in their homes. There are however specific regulations that homeowners must comply with when installing gas equipment. According to the Occupational Health and Safety Act of 1993 which came into effect in October 2009, a gas certificate of compliance must be obtained to ensure that the gas installation is safe, up to standard and leak-free.

In order for a certificate to be issued, the gas installation has to comply with the SABS Regulations for liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) installations (SANS 10087-1, as amended). This includes all built-in:

- Gas fireplaces or braais
- Gas stoves
- Gas geysers or hot water systems

A new certificate will be required every time the property changes ownership. A certificate is valid for five years and must be issued by an authorised person who is registered with the Liquefied Petroleum Gas Safety Association of Southern Africa (LPGAS). The parties cannot contract out of this certificate.

All gas installations must meet certain requirements before they qualify for a compliance certificate:

- No leaks present
- All rubber components must be replaced every 5 years
- Maximum cylinder size of 9kg for flats
- Maximum cylinder size of 19kg inside a house
- Maximum cylinder size of 100kg outside a free-standing property
- Only correctly selected fittings must be used
- Each appliance must have an isolation valve which has been SABS approved
- No electrical connections behind the hob and oven
- The hose must not exceed 2 meters in length and must not pass through a solid partition
- The cylinder must be positioned on a firm base and must be:
 - 5 meters from an electrical point above the valve
 - 1 meter away from a door, open window, or boundary wall
 - 3 meters away from a window below the cylinder
 - 2 meters away from drains or air-conditioning inlets
 - A gas geyser must be 1.4 meters from the ground surface and 1 meter away from the valve