



National Standards Authority of Ireland

IRISH STANDARD

**I.S. 168:1973**

ICS 91.140.30

## **VENTILATION OF CARAVANS AND MOBILE HOMES**

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# **IRISH STANDARD SPECIFICATION**

## **VENTILATION OF CARAVANS AND MOBILE HOMES**

**I.S. 168:1973**

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**DECLARATION**  
**OF**  
**SPECIFICATION**  
**ENTITLED**  
**VENTILATION OF CARAVANS AND MOBILE HOMES**  
**AS**  
**THE IRISH STANDARD SPECIFICATION FOR**  
**VENTILATION OF CARAVANS AND MOBILE HOMES**

The Institute for Industrial Research and Standards in exercise of the power conferred by section 20 of the Industrial Research and Standards Act, 1961 (No. 20 of 1961), and with the consent of the Minister for Industry and Commerce, hereby declares as follows:

1. This instrument may be cited as the Standard Specification (Ventilation of Caravans and Mobile Homes) Declaration, 1973.

2. (1) The Specification set forth in the Schedule to this declaration is hereby declared to be the standard specification for Ventilation of Caravans and Mobile Homes.

(2) The said standard specification may be cited as Irish Standard 168:1973, or as I.S. 168:1973.

## **SCHEDULE**

### **Ventilation of Caravans and Mobile Homes**

#### **SCOPE**

1. This specification applies to the ventilation of caravans and mobile homes.

#### **DEFINITION**

2. For the purposes of this specification the term 'caravan' or 'mobile home' is defined as a structure, with a wheeled chassis whether fixed or retractable, designed for use as a dwelling for human occupation and so constructed as to be movable by towing or other methods of transport. Hereinafter the term 'caravan' shall be deemed to include 'mobile home'.

#### **FIXED VENTILATION**

3. The fixed ventilation shall be designed so as to avoid draughts, even in adverse weather conditions, without impairing the effective area of the ventilation.

The effective total fixed ventilation area, ' $V$ ', shall be not less than the value obtained from the following formula:

(a) for metric dimensions

$$V = (1.4P + 4 + 4C)10^{-3} \text{ m}^2$$

where  $V$  = total area of aperture minus total area of obstructions.

$P$  = plan area in  $\text{m}^2$

$C$  = number of cookers and space heaters without balanced flues. In a heater with a balanced flue all the air required for combustion enters through a duct from the open air.

(b) for inch dimensions

$$V = \left( \frac{P}{5} + 6 + 6C \right) \text{ in.}^2$$

where  $V$  = total area of aperture minus total area of obstructions

$P$  = plan area in  $\text{ft}^2$

$C$  = number of cookers and space heaters without balanced flues

The area 'V' arrived at by the formula shall be divided equally between high and low level, the top ventilators being as high as practicable and those at low level in such a position that they cannot inadvertently be obstructed. This requirement shall apply to each part of the caravan that is normally a separate compartment and to each of the parts of a temporarily divided compartment except where the division is by curtaining.

The ventilation shall not in any way displace or reduce the normal adjustable ventilation provided by windows and roof-lights.

All permanent openings for ventilation shall be covered with perforated or expanded metal or otherwise protected to keep out insects. The wall, roof or floor cavity behind ventilators shall be boxed so as to prevent insulation material obstructing the vents and to reduce condensation in the cavity to a minimum.

#### ADDITIONAL FIXED VENTILATION FOR APPLIANCES AND FITTINGS

4. Fixed ventilation shall also be provided as follows, for:

*(a) Cookers and hotplates.*

Whether or not a cooker recess is capable of being totally enclosed, sufficient additional air ventilation from the outside shall be provided at low level to ensure complete combustion of the fuel.

Adequate overhead ventilation facilities, which may be adjustable, shall also be provided to remove products of combustion, cooking smells and steam.

*(b) Unflued gas or oil burning appliances.*

Where unflued gas or oil burning appliances are fitted, ventilation shall be provided at a rate of not less than 610 mm<sup>2</sup> per MJ per hour (1 in.<sup>2</sup> per 1,000 Btu per hour) input, divided equally between ventilation at floor level and at a high level.

*(c) Solid fuel fire installation.*

Air for combustion shall be provided as follows:

- (i) For freestanding stoves on a base of asbestos insulating board, there shall be an air inlet or inlets of at least 3,870 mm<sup>2</sup> (6 in.<sup>2</sup>) towards the back of the base, and a similar inlet area in the floor beneath towards the front. Both inlets shall be covered with wire mesh or gauze which shall not reduce the free area by more than half.

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