

Guide to laying gas ducting

Northern Gas Networks will allow gas services to be ducted so that paths and roads in private ground do not have to be disturbed. You will lay the ducting and Northern Gas Networks will then insert the service pipe into the duct.

Before carrying out any excavations you must comply with safe digging practices and guidance from Health & Safety Executive.



	Pipe size	Min. duct size
Ducting - for services only	<=32mm	60mm
	63mm	100mm
	90mm	160mm

All service ducts (if used) must conform to all relevant regulations, be yellow in colour, convoluted and perforated. Mains cannot be ducted

Please read these guidelines in conjunction with the "Trench Guidance" document. Gas ducting must be yellow in colour, perforated, vented appropriately, and must comply with all relevant regulations. Gas marker tape must be laid 200mm above the duct to avoid interference damage to gas pipes. Polyethylene (PE) gas, water or cable pipe must not be used as a duct.

Ducting must be laid in a straight line. If there are bends along the route of connection, open trenches should be used in these areas as insertion of the pipe through the bends in ducts is not always possible.

Care should be taken to ensure ducting is not kinked or obstructed. You should also ensure the drawstring is of a suitable material to avoid the string snapping when pulling through the gas pipe. If the ducting is blocked, laid incorrectly, the drawstring snaps or is inserted insufficiently, you will be asked to remove the blockage/obstruction, relay the ducting and/or replace the drawstring.

Keep a clearance of at least 250mm between gas pipe/ fittings being installed alongside, or crossing, the known position of other utilities' plant.

For ease of insertion, the internal diameter of the duct must be sufficient to allow insertion of PE pipe without damage. See Table for minimum duct sizes.

You must ensure that sufficient room is left at each end of the duct to allow access to make the connection to the main and service termination point. Sufficient duct must be left exposed to receive the service pipe and you must allow a minimum of 1m at the entry point to allow us to assemble the required fittings. A drawstring must be inserted into the duct to allow the service pipe to be pulled through. You must also leave sections of the ducting exposed to provide the depth of cover of the service, e.g., via small pits/ holes. The ducting must be laid on a prepared bed or soft ground and the first 100mm backfilled with imported finefill. Gas mains pipes cannot be ducted.

Purchasing ducting

Appropriate ducting for gas services can be purchased at most reputable building suppliers and merchants.