

# What is a Grille?

**A grille is a perforated or slatted cover used to finish off the installation of ventilation systems, typically found at the entry or exit points of ductwork. It serves to prevent debris, pests, or other objects from entering the duct run while allowing air to flow freely. Grilles are commonly used in both internal and external applications in residential and commercial buildings.**

In the context of UK house building, residential retrofits, and home renovations, grilles play a critical role in maintaining the efficiency and safety of ventilation systems. They are often installed in walls, ceilings, or floors to ensure proper airflow while protecting the ductwork from obstructions. Grilles can be made from various materials, including metal, plastic, or wood, and are available in a range of designs to match aesthetic requirements.

## **Practical Examples:**

1. **Internal Grilles:** Used in kitchens and bathrooms to cover extractor fan vents, preventing dust and insects from entering the ductwork.
2. **External Grilles:** Installed on exterior walls to protect air intake or exhaust vents from weather elements and pests.
3. **Decorative Grilles:** Often used in living spaces to blend ventilation with interior design, such as in floor or ceiling vents.

## **Synonyms:**

- Vent cover
- Air vent grille
- Duct grille

## **Related Terms:**

1. **Ductwork:** The system of ducts used to convey air throughout a building.
2. **Ventilation Rate:** The rate at which air is exchanged in a space, as defined in **Approved Document F** of the UK Building Regulations.
3. **Airflow:** The movement of air through a ventilation system, crucial for maintaining indoor air quality.
4. **Extractor Fan:** A device used to remove stale air from a room, often paired with a grille for venting.
5. **Building Regulations:** The UK standards for construction, including ventilation requirements under **Approved Document F (2021 edition)**.