

Is Your Dryer Vent Putting Your Home at Risk?



Topic	Description	Key Considerations
Signs of Venting Problems	Your clothes take longer to dry, the laundry room smells musty, or your dryer feels unusually hot to the touch.	These signs indicate a clog or venting issue, which could lead to serious safety risks if unresolved.
Importance of Proper Venting	Efficiently expelling hot air and lint prevents fire risks, improves energy efficiency, and extends appliance life.	Building codes mandate the use of specific materials and installation practices to ensure safety.
Types of Dryer Vent Systems	Rigid metal ducts are the safest and most efficient, while plastic or vinyl ducts are non-compliant and hazardous.	Flexible ducts should only be used as short connectors and must never be concealed within walls or ceilings.
Installation Guidelines	Minimize the duct length and use sealed joints to ensure proper airflow. Never use mesh covers that clog easily.	Follow manufacturer specifications and local building codes for compliance and safety.
Ventless Dryer Options	Condensing and heat pump dryers are suitable for spaces where exterior venting is not possible.	Verify local code acceptance as these systems can have unique installation requirements.
Maintenance Practices	Clean the lint trap after every load and inspect the exterior vent cover regularly.	Schedule professional cleanings annually or semi-annually for heavy use households.