

# Gasfitter Bulletin



**ATCO Gas**  
AUSTRALIA

**TOPIC  
ONE**  
FEBRUARY 2015

## “Working Around the Typical Domestic Gas Meter”

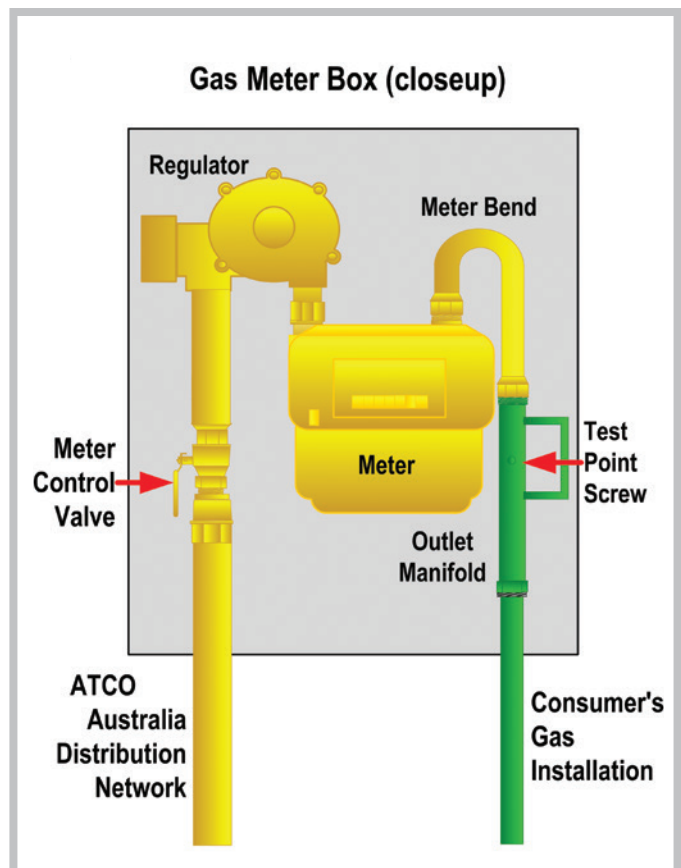
**Q1: “In a typical domestic gas meter box, what equipment belongs to ATCO Gas Australia as part of the distribution network and what equipment belongs to the consumer’s gas installation?”**

**A1:** In Figure 1 opposite, items shown in yellow belong to ATCO Gas Australia as part of the distribution network and items shown in green are part of the consumer’s gas installation (including the gas meter box).

**Q2: “What should gasfitters do if they suspect a gas leak on equipment belonging to ATCO Gas Australia?”**

- A2:**
- Turn off the Meter Control Valve.
  - Immediately stop the work you are carrying out and phone ATCO Gas Australia Faults and Emergencies on **13 13 52\***.
  - ATCO Gas will send personnel to investigate.
  - Advise the customer that gas has been turned off for safety reasons and ATCO Gas has been notified and will attend to investigate.

**Figure 1: Domestic Gas Meter Box**



- KEY**
- ATCO Gas Australia Distribution Network
  - Consumer's gas installation





Figure 2: Meter bend



Figure 3: Example of a test head for conducting independent tightness testing

**NOTE:** Remember to use cross bonding straps when working on the meter bend or removing the security disc as per AS/NZS 5601.1.2013 - Cl. 3.13

**Q3: “Can a gasfitter work on the meter bend?”**

**A3: YES** - A gasfitter may work on the meter bend. This enables a gasfitter to complete a number of tasks including:

- Isolating gas to the consumer’s installation.
- Removing the security disc (see Figure 2 and Figure 4 depicting the security disc).
- Conducting independent tightness testing of a consumer’s gas installation in accordance with Regulation 26 (1) (a) of the Gas Standards (*Gasfitting and Consumer Gas Installations*) Regulations 1999 and AS/NZS 5601.1:2013 Appendix E.

**Q4: “Does a gasfitter need to ensure that the gas meter is correctly isolated when undertaking welding on the consumer’s gas installation?”**

**A4: YES** - As described in the EnergySafety Energy Bulletin Number 53 January 2011, “Gasfitters should understand the meaning of Regulation 18.1 of the Gas Standards (*Gasfitting and Consumer Gas Installations*) Regulations 1999 which states “A gasfitter who does gas fitting work on a gas installation must ensure that the work is done in a safe manner”.

This means making every effort to avoid the possibility of causing a gas ignition event by isolating the gas meter & carrying out appropriate purging of the consumer’s gas installation.

**Q5: “When does ATCO Gas install security discs?”**

**A5:** ATCO Gas installs security discs:

1. During the initial new gas meter installation
2. In some instances when a defect or non-compliance has been identified on the consumer’s gas installation
3. During routine maintenance work

**Q6: “Can a gasfitter remove the security discs?”**

**A6:** The following outlines the activities that a gasfitter is required to complete in relation to security discs:

**1. Initial new gas meter installations**

Providing the gasfitter has submitted their Notice of Completion, gasfitters may introduce gas via the removal of the security disc.

When an “*Installation Selected for Inspection*” label is attached to the meter, this indicates that the gas installation has been selected for inspection by ATCO Gas.

In this case, the security disc can be temporarily removed for commissioning purposes but must be reinstalled upon completion of the commissioning. An inspection by ATCO Gas must then be arranged by the gasfitter, builder or consumer by contacting the ATCO Gas Australia scheduling centre on **13 13 56\***.

**2. When a defect or non-compliance has been identified on the consumer’s gas installation**

Gasfitters can remove the security disc provided that they comply with the requirements of the Inspector’s Order (IO) or Notice of Defect (NOD) as detailed in one or more of the following four examples:

- a. You are in possession of the IO or NOD form that outlines the reasons for the safety disc being inserted. If you do not have a copy, please request one by contacting the ATCO Gas Australia scheduling centre on **13 13 56\***.
- b. The defect or non-compliance has been rectified on the consumer’s installation.
- c. The IO has been signed off by the gasfitter and will be returned to ATCO Gas; or
- d. The Notice of Rectification for the NOD has been signed off by the gasfitter and will be returned to ATCO Gas Australia in accordance with Regulation 30 (b) of the Gas Standards (*Gasfitting and Consumer Gas Installations*) Regulations 1999.

**3. During routine maintenance work by ATCO Gas**

Any security discs inserted by ATCO Gas as a result of routine maintenance work will be accompanied by an ATCO Gas Australia Card or Label identifying the nature of the maintenance work being undertaken.

Security discs must NOT be removed in instances of routine maintenance work.

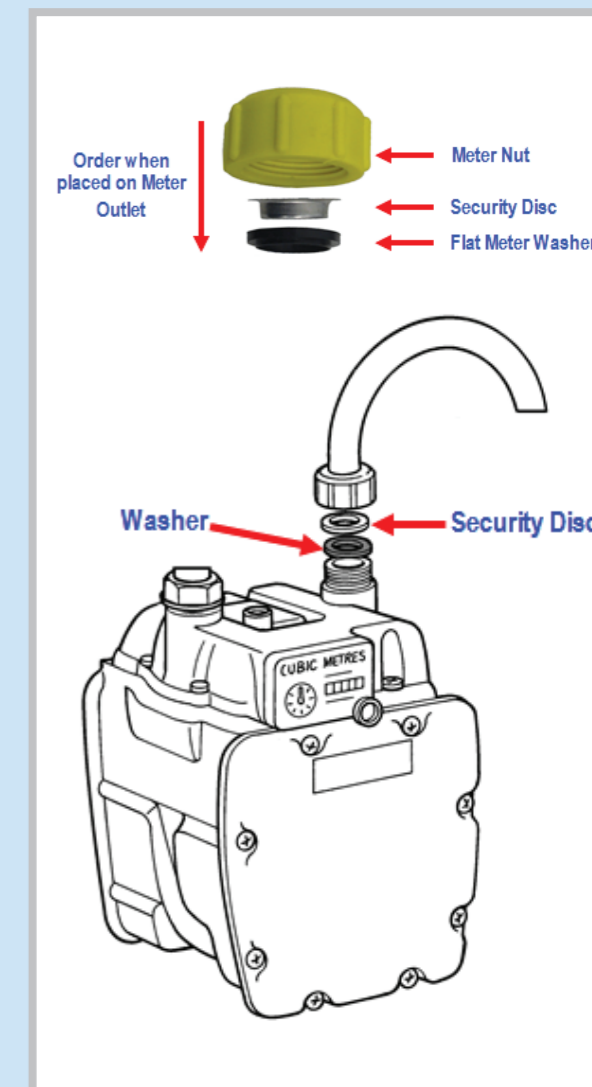


Figure 4: Security disc and associated components used on domestic gas meter installations

\* Local call fee from anywhere in the state excluding mobiles.

**Q7: “What does a gasfitter do if they find a ‘tripped’ Over Pressure Device (OPSO) on an ATCO Gas Australia meter regulator?”**

**A7:** Immediately stop the work you are carrying out and phone ATCO Gas Australia Faults and Emergencies on **13 13 52\***. ATCO Gas will send personnel to investigate.

**Q8: “Are gasfitters allowed to alter the pressure on an ATCO Gas Australia meter regulator?”**

**A8:** **NO** - only ATCO Gas Australia personnel are permitted to alter the pressure on an ATCO Gas meter regulator.

**Q9: “Can a gasfitter commence supply to a new consumer’s installation from an AL12 or AL18 gas meter?”**

**A9:** **YES** - provided they comply with the requirements related to Notice of Intent (NOI). The majority of consumer installations supplied by AL12 and AL18 gas meters are likely to meet the newly introduced Notice of Intent requirements as outlined in Energy Bulletin No 61. (January 2013).

It is required that the gasfitter contact the ATCO Gas Australia scheduling centre on **13 13 56\*** to discuss the consumer’s gas installation requirements with an ATCO Gas Designated Gas Utilisation Inspector.

**Notice of Intent submission requirements (NOI):**

- Multi-residential (16 or more residential units)
- Multistorey (3 or more storeys) buildings
- Consumer piping system containing piping greater than a 32mm nominal diameter
- Class I (large commercial or industrial) installation
- A gas installation with a maximum gas supply rate greater than 1,000 MJ/h.

The NOI can be downloaded from the EnergySafety website at:

<http://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/energysafety/notice-intent-noi>

**Q10: “What should a gasfitter do if a consumer’s gas installation is leaking?”**

**A10:** A gasfitter must:

1. When authorised to do so by the consumer, repair the gas leak on the consumer’s gas installation.  
**OR**
2. When the consumer does not authorise the leak to be repaired, the gasfitter is required to:
  - a. Advise the consumer that the gas installation is required to be repaired by a registered gasfitter.
  - b. Turn the gas off at the meter control valve to isolate the consumer’s gas supply and report the situation to ATCO Gas Australia on **13 13 56\*** as per Regulation 42A (1) (b) of the Gas Standards (*Gasfitting and Consumer Gas Installations*) Regulations 1999. Please request to speak to an ATCO Gas Australia Designated Gas Utilisation Inspector.

**Q11: “Where can a gasfitter find more information about the Gas Standards (*Gasfitting and Consumers Gas Installations*) Regulations 1999?”**

**A11:** For copies of the current Gas Standards Regulations, please visit the State Law Publisher Website Legislation Databases: <http://www.slp.wa.gov.au/Index.html>

