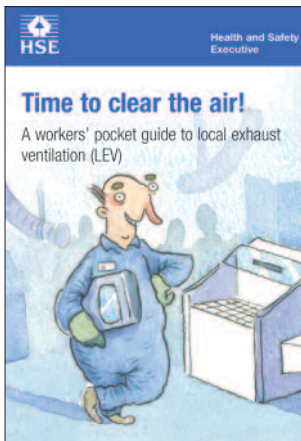


# Time to clear the air!

A workers' pocket guide to local exhaust ventilation (LEV)



*This is a web-friendly  
version of pocket card  
INDG409*

Local exhaust ventilation (LEV) in your workplace should carry away any harmful dust, mist, fumes or gas in the air.

To protect your health:

- It needs to be the right type for the job.
- It needs installing properly in the first place.
- It needs regular checking and maintenance throughout the year.
- It needs testing thoroughly at least once every year.
- If you move LEV, make sure it still works.
- It needs an indicator to show it's working properly.
- You need to check that it works properly every time you use it.
- You need to use it properly.

Check for yourself to see how effective the LEV is where you work.

## Daily checklist for LEV

- Does the indicator show the LEV is working properly?
- Is it taking away all the harmful dust, mist, fumes and gas? Remember, some of these may be invisible.
- Are you close enough to it so it can do its job properly?
- Are there any signs it is not working properly, like smells or settled dust?
- Are there any unusual noises or vibration coming from it?
- Has it been thoroughly tested, with a 'tested' label that is within date?
- Have you told your supervisor about anything you think may be wrong?

## Further information

For information about health and safety, or to report inconsistencies or inaccuracies in this guidance, visit [www.hse.gov.uk/](http://www.hse.gov.uk/). You can view HSE guidance online and order priced publications from the website. HSE priced publications are also available from bookshops.

**This pocket card contains notes on good practice which are not compulsory but which you may find helpful in considering what you need to do.**

This pocket card is available in priced packs of 25 from HSE Books, ISBN 978 0 7176 6300 2. Single copies are free and a web version can be found at: [www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg409.pdf](http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg409.pdf).

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