



**CAST IRON AIR BRICK COMPANY**

Building Architectural Enhancements

**riba**  
product  
selector

Specification Sheet – ciabHM1-2018

[www.castironairbricks.co.uk](http://www.castironairbricks.co.uk)

## HIT and MISS Adjustable CAST IRON AIR BRICKS

ITEM - HM3 - HM6 - HM9



Cast iron hit and miss air bricks are made from grey iron, cast in sand moulds bonded with resin to a fine cast finish and are available in three sizes (9x3, 9x6 and 9x9) (see table below for metric mm sizes). This is the only cast iron air brick available which has a movable shutter .

### **Problem Solver**

Designed in late 19<sup>th</sup> century, this air brick had the ability to allow air into the property but could be closed off during gales and especially windy or cold periods during the winter. It was used extensively during this period and into Edwardian times.

## **Construction**

The hit and miss cast iron air brick is made up of three components – A cast iron air brick frame with a sliding cast iron backing plate and a chromed adjusting knob and nut to secure the two together and allow for opening and closing.

## **Uses**

Used equally as an internal or external vent during Victorian times to supply natural ventilation to interior rooms especially those with open fires. It is now mainly used in period properties to replace defective vents and anywhere where there is an exposed position facing the prevailing wind. We have supplied quite a number to Scandinavia, Canada, USA and New Zealand where it is especially suitable as well as highlands and islands of Scotland, Wales and particularly Dublin.

## **Examples**

The hit and miss air brick is normally installed as a replacement for damaged or seized units and has been installed in numerous Victorian properties including former railway buildings and station houses across the UK national parks. Rather surprisingly, almost every rectory and manor house in the country has at least one and less surprising, the majority are broken or seized. The air brick has a new lease of life as shop fitters are installing them for “industrial” or “heritage” fit outs for restaurants, pubs and retail outlets. All Souls College, Oxford is now better aspirated thanks to installation of hit and miss airbricks in 2012 and two hit and miss 9x3s are proudly installed in the Stavik Lighthouse, Varmland in Sweden.

## **Finish**

These air bricks are supplied in bare metal and oiled. They are unsuitable for painting

## **Environmental Benefits and Longevity**

All the cast iron air bricks we commission are UK made and this product is made in Wolverhampton, England.

Cast iron is not affected by UV and is fire resistant and fully recyclable. The cast iron used in the manufacture of this product is sourced from scrap iron with the addition of a small amount of pig iron. On average, 95% of the casting is recycled material. The moulds used to create the castings are generated using sand that is packed in a box with one of our patterns and this sand is used again and again to create further castings.

Casting in the UK has ensured all our products are made to strict emission and pollution levels in accordance with the latest legislation and that the workers creating these products are fairly paid and have a safe working environment in which to earn a living.

Melting iron requires a substantial amount of energy from either gas or electricity and to offset the CO2 emissions from this process we have planted over 300 trees in our own 3 acre wood. The annual absorption of CO2 from our wood is enough to ensure the production of our castings is carbon neutral.

As we don't import any of our products, the mileage from foundry to our finishing workshop and distribution bay in North Devon is very low keeping our carbon footprint small and once installed we expect this air brick to last a life time.

## **Maintenance**

The bare cast iron air brick should be periodically opened and closed and occasionally oiled with WD40 or suitable light penetrating oil.

## **Notes for architects**

These hit and miss air bricks are exact copies of the hit and miss air bricks installed over hundred years ago in properties across the country. They were extremely common in rooms with open fires and our brand new air bricks are in demand to replace the considerable number of defective ones that present day owners find they've been left with. As with all installation of closable vents used in supplying air to rooms for combustion, specifiers should be aware of the latest Gas Safe and HETAS regulations regarding solid fuel, oil and gas appliances to check that the hit and miss airbrick is suitable and legal. Customers should be aware of the limitations of this air brick. The mating surface between the back of the air brick and the slider has to have a small gap to allow it to move and also to prevent it from seizing. The mating faces are fine cast but not machined therefore when closed the vent will still allow about 5%-10% of air to pass through. Although it is not possible to supply the hit and miss air brick painted we are able to supply it without the slider and painted in black or to customer requirement. Without the slider the airbrick is item VV3, VV6 and VV9 and is available along with our standard air bricks

**SPECIFICATION TABLE – HIT & MISS AIRBRICKS**

Item Code	Nom. Size (Inch)	Size in mm	Vent Size (mm)	Weight (KG)	Free Area with mesh (mm <sup>2</sup> )	Plate Thickness (mm)	Depth (mm)
HM3	9 x 3	225 x 75	8 x 55	0.8	4500 (open)	4	30
HM6	9 x 6	225 x 150	8 x 125	1.6	10,500 (open)	4	35
HM9	9 x 9	222 x 222	10 x 95 (2 rows)	2.2	17,000 (open)	5	30

**Material – Grey cast iron 250**

**British Made Product**

Cast iron foundry source – West Midlands, England



For more details please see our website...

<https://www.castironairbricks.co.uk/product-category/hit-miss-air-bricks/>

Alternatively email or call us

[Sales@castironairbricks.co.uk](mailto:Sales@castironairbricks.co.uk)

01598 711999

Delivery for this product is normally from stock for low volume orders and these are sent out the next working day for orders received before 12 o'clock. Ideally we hold 10 units bare metal of each size although this is a guide and can quickly change.

Cast Iron Air Brick Company, Down Farm, Brayford, EX32 7QQ



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