

Ventilation in wet rooms

Does good ventilation
compensate for bad work?

Wet rooms and ventilation. Airtight like a balloon... or????

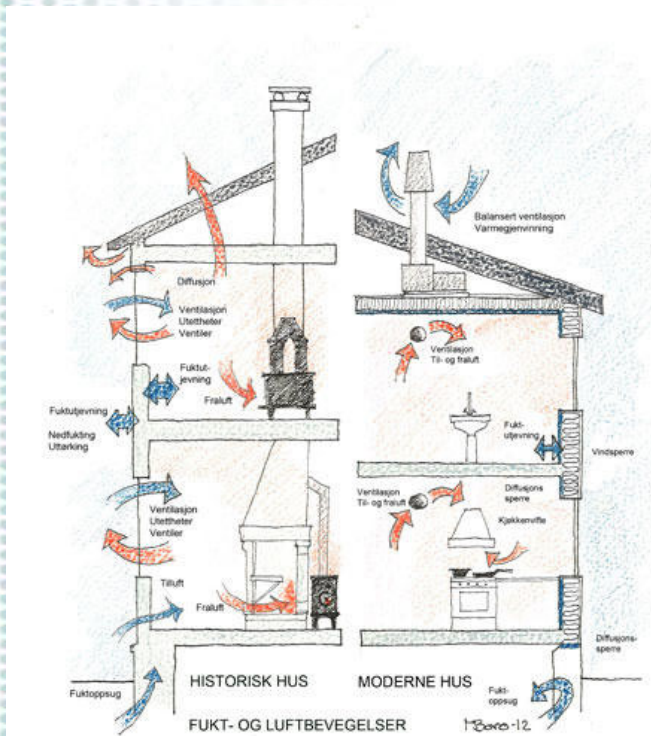


Photo: Norwegian Directorate for Cultural Heritage

Older houses:

- Diffusion open materials, simple structures leaking heat
- Wood burning created normal sub pressure

New houses:

- Diffusion dense materials, watertight structures, balanced ventilation.
- Balanced ventilation, demand controlled (air in = air out)
- Right job demands knowledge.

In Norway we shall....

- Have ventilation that:
 - Secures satisfactory quality of air
 - Customised to the rooms' humidity levels
 - Secures sufficient ventilation

What does
satisfactory and
sufficient mean?



Main requirements for ventilation

- Exchange the air in the room with sufficient amount of air
- Lead air from room with higher quality of air to room with lesser requirement for air quality
- Be buildt with durable materials and products, so that it can be maintained in a good manner
- Should not affect the indoor climate with noise, condense or over heating
- Constructed in a way that contributes to low energy requirements



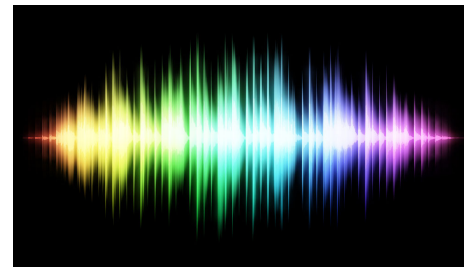
Minimum amount of air (TEK 17)

Rom	Grunnventilasjon	Forsert ventilasjon
Kjøkken	36 m ³ /h	108 m ³ /h
Baderom	54 m ³ /h	108 m ³ /h
Toalettrom	36 m ³ /h	36 m ³ /h
Vaskerom/tørkerom	36 m ³ /h	72 m ³ /h



Conditions

- Ventilation system must be projected, dimensioned and regulated for each housing unit, in order to ensure the right amount of air, avoiding noise, overheating, and ensuring adequate fire safety.
- To avoid noise and unnecessary use of energy, the canals closest to the vents in the housing unit should be dimensioned for an air speed of maximum 2 m/s.



Humidity issues in buildings ventilation compensates for

- Issues:
 - Leakage from pipe system
 - Humidity in building
 - High production of humidity from wet room, shower, drying laundry
 - Lack of ventilation



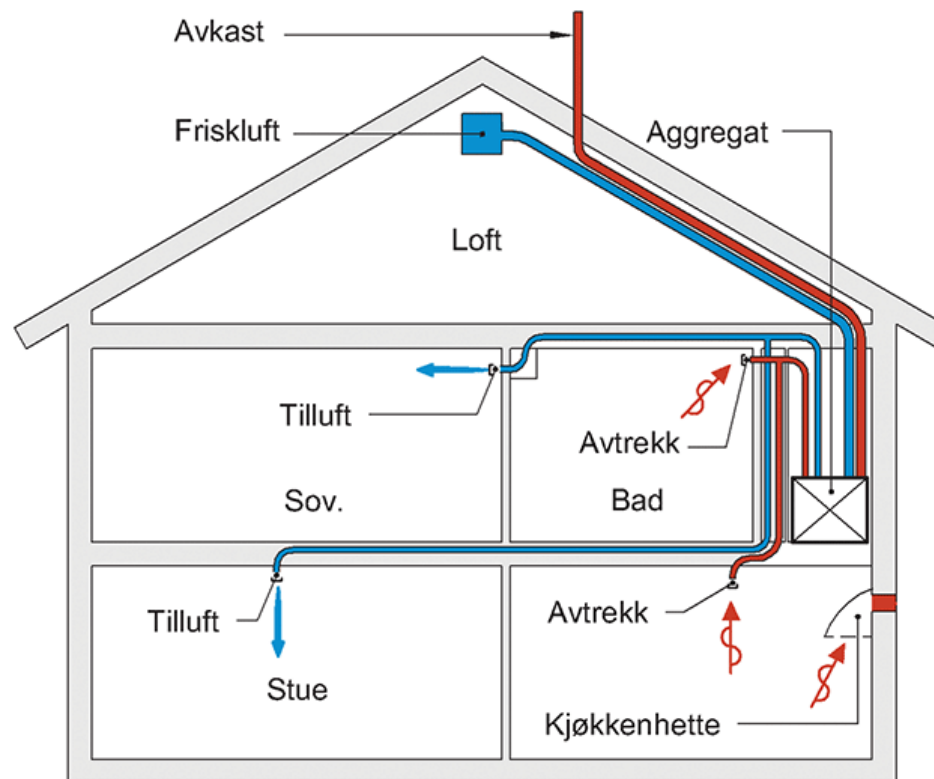
Source: Norwegian institute of public health

Why airtight houses with ventilation?

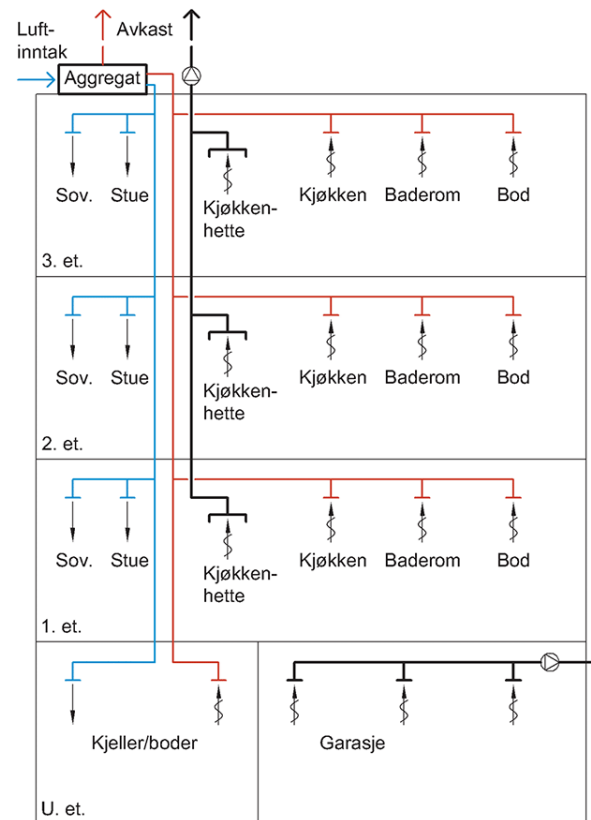
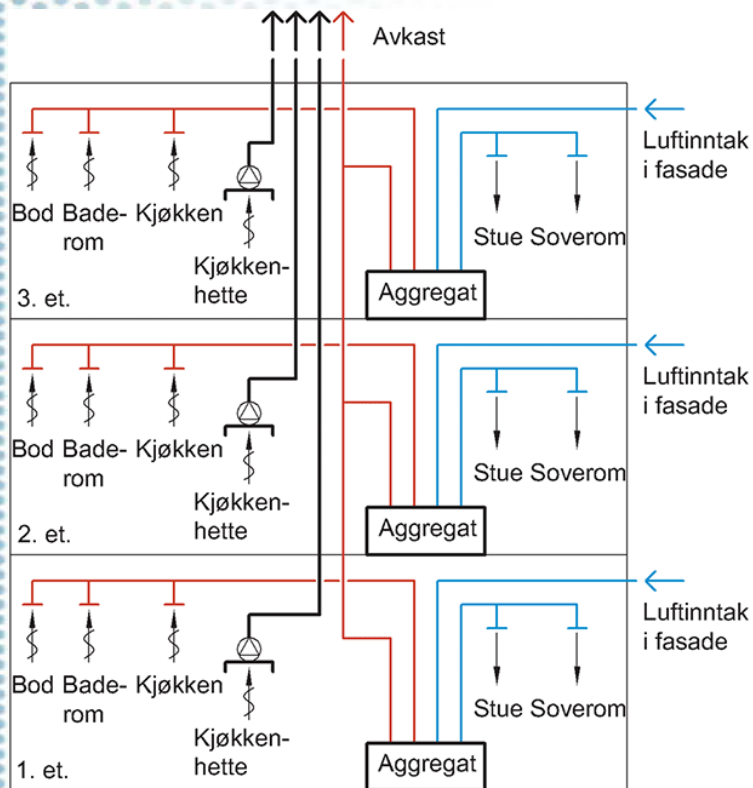
- Good indoor air quality
- Ventilation can be controlled
- Security against humidity damage
- Better comfort
- Energy efficient
- Better fire safety

Principles of ventilation

- **Balanced** (often used)

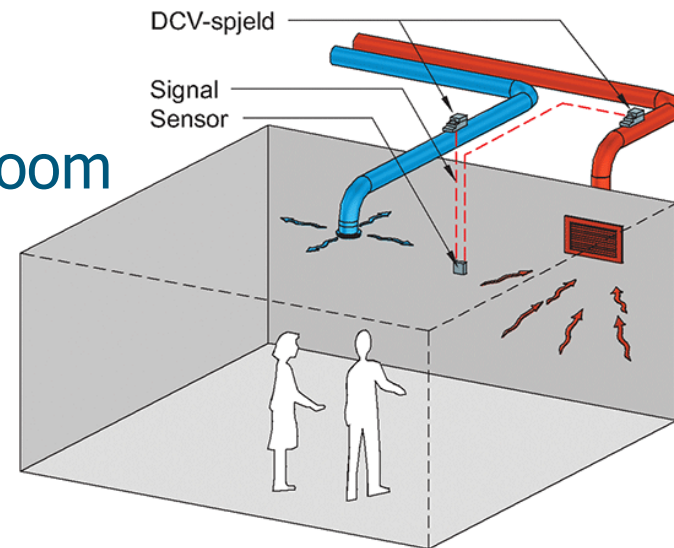


Principles of balanced ventilation in multi housing unit buildings



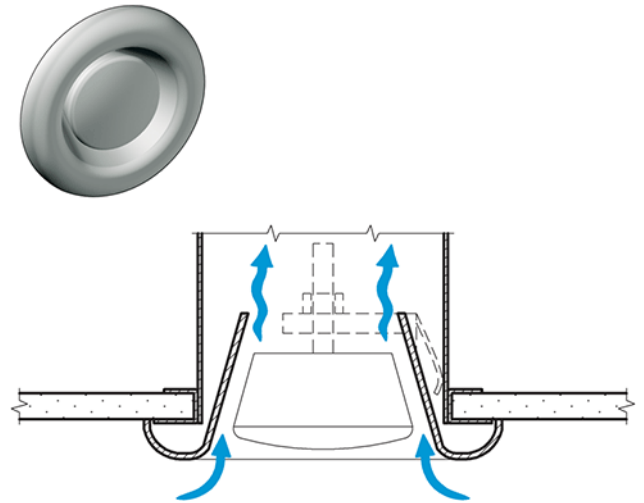
Demand-Controlled Ventilation (DCV)

- Maintains basic ventilation.
- Adjusted by:
 - Measured requirement from a sensor in the room, i.e. temperature or CO₂ level.
 - Assumed requirement without sensor measurements in the room



Placing of vents/canals

- Place supply air vent so to avoid shorting by exhaust- or overflow vents. NB: Wet rooms!
- Keep vents away from corners.
- In ceiling, at least 150mm from walls.
- In wall, at least 150 mm from ceiling.
- Think condensation



Challenges for the users of buildings.

- Indoor climate
- Density of constructions
- Differences in air pressure
- Rot/Corrosion



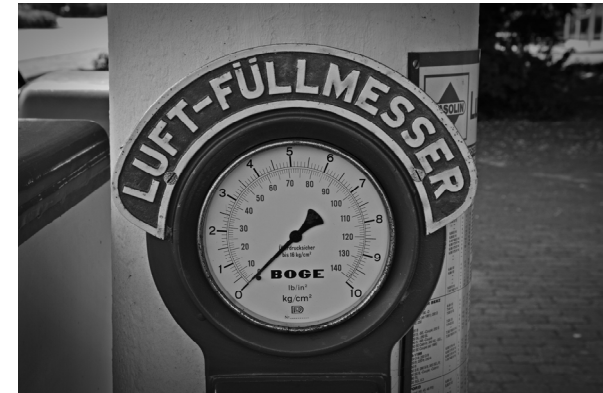
Risk

- K1- Indoor climate
- K2- Indoor pressure
- K3- Construction

$$\bullet K1 \times K2 \times K3 = \text{Risk} = \text{Probability} \times \text{Consequence}$$

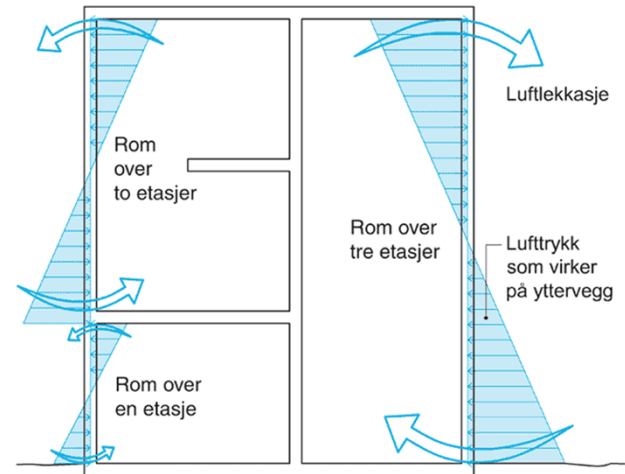
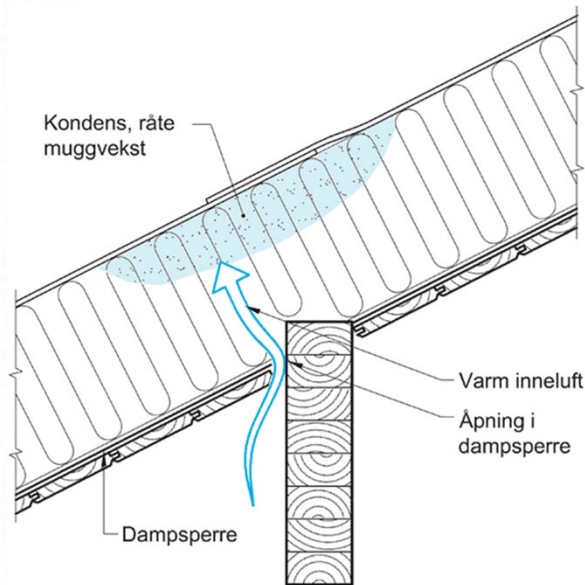
What if we set the indoor pressure to 0?

Source: Norwegian institute of public health



Wet rooms must be:

- Damp proof
- Airtight



Practical advice

- Choose robust, diffusion tight constructions.
- Have adequate ventilation that:
 - Removes water molecules
 - Evens out pressure and creates a sub pressure in the room.
- Avoid unnecessary sources of humidity.
- Clean up any water spillage.



Conclusion

- Build airtight, air density prevents humidity damage
- Ventilate correctly
- Good ventilation is a prerequisite for good indoor climate

Thank you!



- Pressure
- Air leakage
- Diffusion
- Moisture in materials
- Adding humidity by use
- Outdoor air / Climate

