Non-Engineered vs. Engineered Openings

Typically, the average 16-in. x 8-in. foundation air vents ARE NOT permanently disabled in the open position. An air vent that is not permanently open is rated at 0 inches of net opening for flood protection.

Additionally, screening and slats take up on average from 60–80% of the 128 sq. in. that is the size of a typical air vent. A standard air vent will only provide 42 sq. in. of net opening.

An Engineered 16-in. x 8-in. SMART VENT is certified for 200 sq. ft. of flood protection per vent.

Placement Requirements

The bottom of each flood vent is to be located no higher than 1 ft. above the highest interior or exterior adjacent grade below the vent. (FEMA TB1-08, PAGE 7).

There must be at least 2 openings on different walls per each enclosed area below the Base Flood Elevation (FEMA TB1-08, PAGE 13).

ELIMINATE LIABILITY

Be sure to get the facts before you put your name on the line

- FEMA-Accepted
- ICC-ES Certified
- Easy to Install
- Save on Flood Insurance
- 316 Stainless Steel

Engineered vents have been designed, tested and certified as flood vents. For example, SMART VENTS are ICC-ES Certified for 200 sq. ft. of flood protection per 16-in. x 8-in. vent.

Non-Engineered openings have not gone through any of the required testing qualify as an engineered flood vent and typically are soley intended for use as an air vent. Therefore, they are rated at the assumptive method of 1 net sq. in. of opening per 1-ft. of enclosed area.