Fact Sheet --- HEARTHS & PLINTHS

An Aga requires a flat, solid, non-combustible base, capable of supporting its weight, which is typically :-

	2 Oven	3 oven	4 oven
13 amp Electric, Oil or Gas-fired	406 kg	477 kg	584 kg
30 amp heat storage Electric	708 kg	N/A	842 kg
Module (Additional to the above)	129 kg		

It should be borne in mind that the cooker weight is not spread equally across the base plate, particularly with the 30 amp heat-storage electric models where there is a heavy weight concentration on the left-hand side where the core box rests independent of the cast base plate.

Current Building Regulations (England & Wales part J, Scotland part F) require the base to have a minimum non-combustible thickness of:-
Oil, Gas and 13amp electric models - 12mm ,30 amp Heat storage Electric- 50mm
Although this is the minimum required, such a thin section of material would rarely be able to carry the weight without cracking.

It is not essential that an Aga stands on a raised plinth providing the above conditions are met with, but the thickness of any plinth will usually be determined by the need or otherwise to match the working height of the Aga to adjacent surfaces. The Aga working height is approximately 851mm without a plinth.

If the floor is suspended, it may require additional support underneath the base area. The assistance of a builder or structural engineer should be sought.

Wood-cladding, linoleum or plastic tiles must be removed from the area of the Aga base.

The dimensions of a hearth or plinth should be the same as the Aga base-plate:-
Depth 679mm
Width 987mm – 2 & 3 0ven, 1600mm – 2 & 3 oven + Module
1487mm – 4 oven, 2100mm – 4 oven + Module
An overlap of 10mm maximum is allowed along the front edge, but there must be no overhang to the rear or on the left or right-hand sides.

It is vital that the finished hearth or plinth is absolutely level in all directions, as only very minor shimming of the Aga base plate is permitted, up to a maximum of 8mm. This is not permitted with the electric model.

When wall tiles are to be fitted on the rear wall, these must go down behind the Aga and not finish onto the top-plate. Allow extra depth to the 679mm dimension to compensate. Any skirting board at the rear should be removed.

Electrical cables must not be routed behind the Aga and it is inadvisable to try and bring fuel pipes through a concrete plinth.

Suitable materials

Prefabricated plinths
- ***Prestwood***

A preferred method is to use one of the Aga (Prestwood) pre-fabricated steel plinths available for use with gas, oil and 13amp electric Agas, hot-cupboards and gas & electric Modules. They are not suitable for the heat storage electric Aga cookers. These do not require any concrete in-fill and therefore can be fitted to any reasonably level base surface on the actual day of the Aga installation.

They are available as three separate units and each is available in two height options, enabling the Aga to be raised between 50- 65mm or 65-80mm

See drawings overleaf

Plinth ‘A’ is for the 2 or 3 oven cooker, dimensions 984 X 675
Part number A3894 50mm-65mm or A4121 65-80mm
Plinth ‘B’ is for the Hot-cupboard extension, dimensions 490 X 675
Part number A 3893 50mm- 65mm or A4122 65-80mm
Plinth ‘C’ is for an Aga Module, dimensions 606 X 675
Part number A 3892 50mm- 65mm or A4123 65-80mm

Although the height is adjustable within these ranges, any adjustment to the feet must be made before the Aga is built on it. Metal pads are provided for placing under each foot, to prevent the plinth ‘wandering’ during adjustment. On very slippery surfaces, a dab of silicone can be put under each pad.

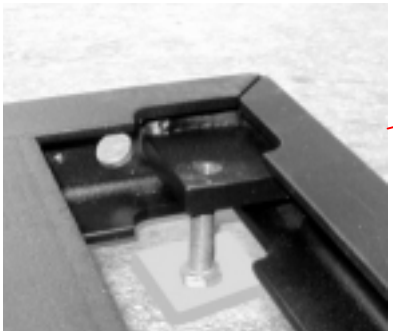
When a Module is to be fitted against a Hot-cupboard, a 6mm thick spacer bar is fitted between the two plinths, to achieve the correct final width. This bar is automatically supplied with all Module plinths. Additional washers are also supplied with all standard plinths, to enable increased spacing and overall width to be obtained.

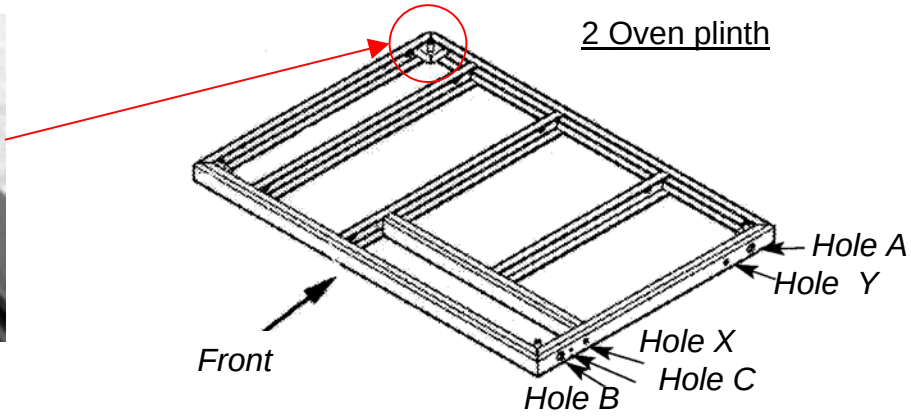
Holes ‘X’ and ‘Y’ are used to accommodate the fixing bolts for adjacent plinths and spacing washers can also be fitted between them if the plinths are to finish directly in line with the side edges of a 4 oven cooker base plate.

Provision is made for an earth bonding wire to be fitted if desired, using an M6 bolt through hole ‘C’

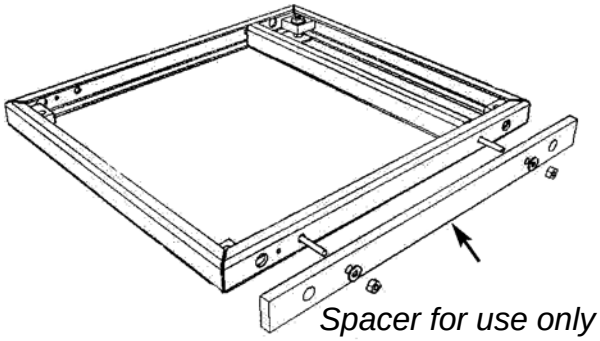
A gas supply can be run through the plinths using the 20mm diam holes at ‘A’ and ‘B’

It should be noted that the plinth dimension front to back, is slightly less than the Aga base plate. This is to enable a gap to be left at the rear against the wall, so as to accommodate a gas-pipe at low-level or it could enable a false front such as tiles to be fitted to the plinth..

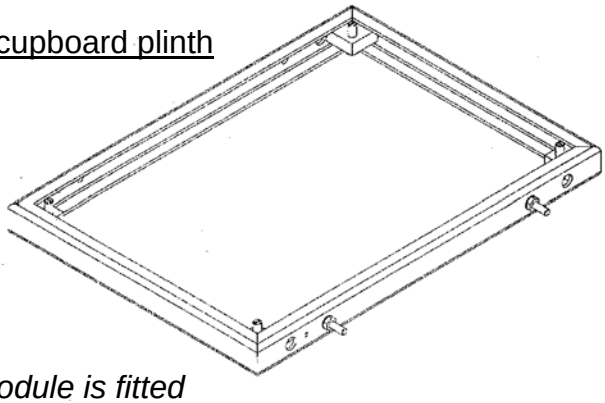




Module plinth



Hotcupboard plinth



Spacer for use only when module is fitted against a hotcupboard

Fabricated Steel

- Exspec

There is also a range of prefabricated steel sub-frames available where the height needs to be raised more than 85mm. These must be supplied direct to the customer well in advance of the cooker installation date, for them or their contractors to fit, as the interior of the frame has to be filled with concrete, requiring curing time.

These are suitable for any model of Aga including the Electric and Solid Fuel types.

The sub-frames are available in a wide range of sizes to suit various cooker/ module combinations and the following heights are useful where extra height work surfaces are encountered. 4 off Jacking screws are provided to provide initial levelling. The exposed steelwork can be painted with a metal paint such as ‘Hammerite’.

Part numbers:-

2 oven cooker A4162 Hotcupboard A4163 Module A4164

Masonry/Concrete

Plinths may take the form of a cast concrete base, which must be laid at least 3 days before the day of the Aga installation, to allow for thorough curing to take place.
It must be absolutely level. This work will be performed by the customer or their contractor.

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Alternatively a pre-cast concrete slab can be used, e.g. a garden paving slab/s, but these must be adequately levelled and supported.

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