



Wood Burning FAQs

I just purchased a wood burning appliance.

What are some of the things I should be doing?

- Read the owner's manual
- Purchase a fire extinguisher
- Purchase a smoke detector
- Expect fumes the first couple of times the wood appliance is lit
- Ensure no plastic packing material remains in the stove

What is the proper way to dry wood before we burn it in our fireplace?

Ideally, your wood should be:

- Store outside
- Split and stacked for 2 years before using
- Top covered
- Open on all sides (so that wind can pass through)

It is the opinion of many experts that stacked wood or 'dry' wood purchased from suppliers is not dry enough for today's new EPA approved wood burning appliances. To know if your wood is dry enough for burning, visit our showroom to purchase a wood moisture metre from us and test your wood.

Common wet wood symptoms:

- 'Boiling' or 'hissing' sound
- Visually notice boiling water or steam
- Lack of heat
- Dirty glass
- Tough to ignite

I just had a WETT inspection and was informed that my stove is uncertified – what does that mean?

Include custom stoves, un-tested stoves, and most units built before 1980.

Disadvantages of Un-Certified Wood Appliances

- Less efficient (requires more wood for same heating power)
- Requires much higher clearances (often 48")
- Lacks convenience features of newer stoves
- Fire hazards
- May not be insurable

CSA Code governing non-certified Wood Stoves: CSA B36



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The glass in my wood stove / fireplace seems to be getting dirty quite often.

Possible Causes

- Wet wood (purchase a moisture meter and check your wood)
- Burning non-wood (mould, plastic, paper...)
- Not enough draft (smoke is hanging around the glass, not cold enough outside)
- Fire built too close to the glass (for newer appliances, ensure your logs are 16"-18" long max)
- Chimney height (not enough draft)

Recommendations

- Heat the chimney before building the fire
- Hot fires
- Ensure gasket on door is sealing properly
- Ensure dry wood and proper draft

What are some of the most useful wood-burning accessories that we should own?

Our top 10 recommended accessories:

1. A high quality tool-set
2. An ash bucket with reinforced bottom
3. An ash rake
4. High-temperature gloves
5. Natural firestarter
6. Log carrier
7. Log holder
8. Glass cleaner
9. Matches
10. Chimney cleaning equipment

For more information

Visit a specialty hearth retailer and/or check out www.woodheat.org.