Warmington Traditional Open Fires

Maintenance and Operating Instructions

Please keep these instructions for future reference

How to light and maintain an Open Traditional wood fire.

NOTE ON TRADITIONAL FIRES:

Like the Traditional brick back fire of yesteryear, the Warmington Traditional fire is built with the experience and techniques of the past. These make a grand statement in the home, and with the introduction of the gas log lighter for ease of operation, are simple to operate—however, they can lack in efficiency.

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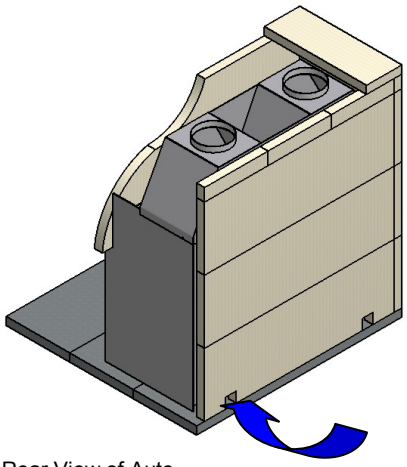
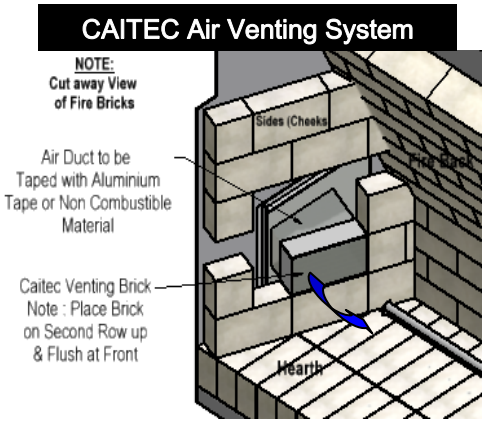
"CAITEC" TECHNOLOGY—ROOM AIR REPLACEMENT



Rear View of Auto-claved Aerated Concrete (AAC) Heat Cell and Firebox.



External Air Supply for "Caitec Air" and Cooling Air

"Caitec" draws air from an external air source to ensure that the open fire has pre-heated combustion air maximising efficiency while maintaining the home at constant pressure equilibrium, reducing the risk of back drafting.

Ensure that the cavity is vented to outside fresh air and the Warmington Fire will take care of the rest.
2 x 100mm Diameter vents are required (or equivalent).

Builder to ensure external air to the cavity.

STARTING A NEW FIRE

To start and maintain a good fire, you need the following:

- Newspaper (not coloured or coated)
- Packet of firelighters (optional)
- Quantity of finely split, dry soft wood kindling (such as pine).
- Seasoned dry, split firewood in range of sizes
  (do not burn treated wood, painted wood, plywood, particle board or MDF)

Matches

Newspaper

Fire Lighters may be used

Kindling is finely split and ideal for starting the fire.

Generally fire wood is cut to 300 to 350mm lengths and split to 150 to 180mm cross section. Note the Season Cracks in the ends.

For correct operation of your Traditional open wood fire — follow these guidelines:

1. Fully open the damper by using the damper blade tool.

2. Place generous amount of crumpled newspaper in the firebox. Place 10-15 pieces of finely split, dry kindling on top and behind the paper. Putting firelighters under the newspaper can help to sustain burn time.

3. Use long matches or long nosed gas firelighter to light the paper. When the flames from the kindling load just begin to subside, add several **small** pieces of soft wood. Add larger pieces in a crisscross pattern when the fire is established.

4. The most productive way to control the burn rate is by the amount of fuel that you load in the fire. Load the fire to gain the desired heat output, but ensure that the fire is not overloaded. See fuel load on page 4.

5. Excess ash should be placed in a non-combustible container with a tight fitting lid and moved outdoors immediately to a location clear of combustible materials.

6. In order for the fire to burn properly, the chimney must pull combustion air through the fire place. Ensure you establish a good, smoke free, hot fire by placing small pieces of wood on the fire, and put on larger pieces as the heat increases.

7. Flues and chimneys should be cleaned annually, or more frequently if required.

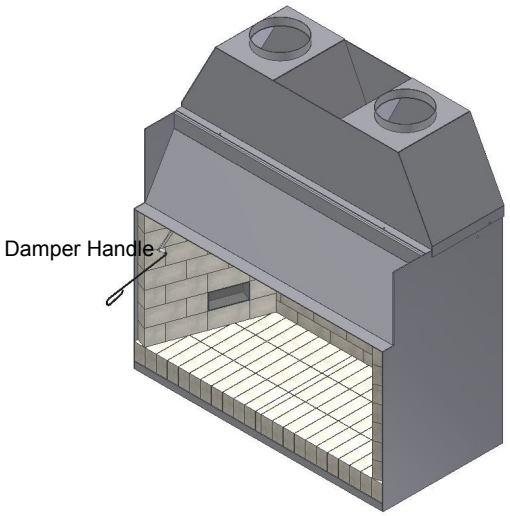
DAMPER OPERATION INSTRUCTIONS

Improper damper operation will cause smoke spill. These basic guildelines should be followed to allow good operation of the fire.

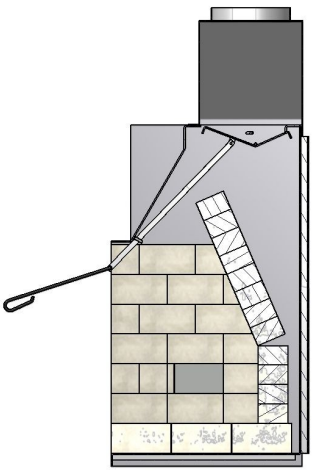
1. The damper must be fully open when using the fire.

2. When reloading the fire, ensure the damper handle is fully open to allow smoke to pass up the chimney.

3. When the fire is ***out,*** the damper can be closed to minimize downdraughts. Even when the damper is closed, a minimum air gap is provided between the damper and the flue.



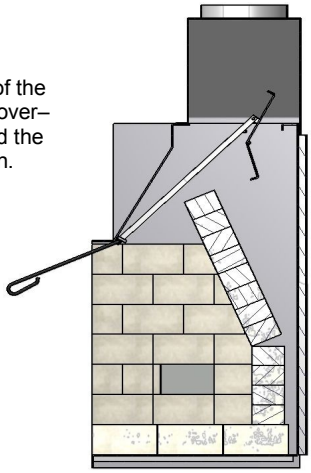
DAMPER - CLOSED



NOTE:

The weight of the damper will over–center & hold the damper open.

DAMPER - OPEN



FUEL LOADS

The size of the logs and the number of pieces that can be loaded per fueling will vary with the size of the fire. Generally the fuel load would be 2-6 pieces of fuel every 25-40 minutes (depending on the size of the fire). he fuel load will directly impact the heat output and will vary to your requirements.

The quality of the firewood used can have a dramatic effect on the efficiency and operation of the fire. The main factors are moisture content, tree species and piece size. We recommend that dry timber which has been stored from the previous year be used, and that a mix of soft and hard woods be used. A dense, hard wood will give a longer lasting coal bed, where a less dense wood will bring a fire to optimum temperature quickly.

GUIDE ONLY:
The amount of wood and the frequency of the wood load can be gauged by the level of embers in the ash pan along with the height of the wood that is burning.

The ember level will build up as the fire is being used, and should not exceed the level of the grate. Once the ash has reached the underside of the grate, and the fire is cold, remove the excess ash as described in the instructions on page 3.

The burning wood is to be contained in the grate to prevent the fuel from falling out onto the hearth. If the load of fuel is too large, or the physical size of the wood is too big, it may not fit into the grate, therefore the number of pieces of wood will need to be reduced and the size will need to be cut to a smaller size.

NOTE: Damage to the fire as a result of over firing is not covered in the Warranty.

GENERAL MAINTENANCE

- We recommend the flue is swept and cleaned as least once a year to reduce the risk of a chimney fire. Ensure the damper is fully open when cleaning the chimney. Remove the cowl from the top of the chimney and sweep from the top down the flue. Remove all soot and ash and ensure cowl and any bird protection is cleaned and replaced.
- Clean the bricks of the fire using a stiff brush.
- We recommend you do not use water or wet cleaning product on the bricks because of their porous qualities.

IMPORTANT NOTES

Finish
High temperature steel parts are finished with a matt black high temperature paint designed to withstand the rigors of normal combustion (see above).

Flue System
The installation and construction of the flue system must comply with ASNZS:2918.
The **Warmington** open fires require a **Warmington** tested and approved flue system as tested to ASNZS:2918. The tested flue system should not be modified in any way without written approval of the manufacturer. Any additional flue components must comply with ASNZS:2918.

IMPORTANT NOTES cont….

Floor Protection
Floor protectors are normally designed to suit each individual 'setting'. The installation and construction of the floor protector must comply with ASNZS:2918. The **Warmington** fire requires an 'insulation hearth' and an 'insulation 'plinth' (floor protector), as outlines in the specifications.

Installation
The **Warmington** unit is to be installed by an approved NZHHA Installation Technician.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Please check that the chimney has been cleaned recently and that it is not blocked before calling your Warmington agent.

Properly designed, installed and operated wood-burning appliances do not spill smoke into the house. These are the main reasons why some may smoke, and you may find these solutions helpful:

1. **Smoke Spillage:** A survey of households that use wood for heating showed that a large majority of users had experienced smoke spillage from their appliances at least once. These episodes of smoke spillage can be reduced or eliminated through proper appliance operation. The smell of wood smoke inside your home is a sign that the wood heating system is not functioning properly. The smoke contains harmful air pollutants that can be irritating or even dangerous.

- **Check fuel load:** Too much fuel in one load will cause the fire to overcharge, not allowing the flue and cowl system to cope with the excess smoke, causing the smoke to bellow into the room.
- **Too little fuel load:** this will have the effect that there is not enough draft in the flue to allow the smoke to draw up the chimney. The fire will be performing poorly as the fire will not heat up and circulate the convection air.
- **Cowls:** A different style of cowl may make a difference in some situations, but seek the advice of a Warmington agent as some cowls are not suitable for some applications.
- **Chimney:** Ensure that the chimney is swept as the build up of soot inside the chimney can happen very quickly in cold climates, especially if the fuel is green. This can happen as quickly as 5—10 fire operations.
- **The Prevailing Wind :** Care needs to be taken to ensure that the flue termination is in the correct position, as wind and gusts that hit the flue and cowl system may overcome the cowl and draft back down the flue into the home. This can be a combination of down draft and high pressure.
- **The Topography of the land :** The slope and position of the land in relation to the home has a bearing on how the wind will interact with the fire and flue system. Care needs to be taken to ensure that the flue termination is in the correct position to maximise performance.

2. **Low Heat Output :** The moisture content of the fuel has the greatest effect on the heat out put of the fire. The wood needs to be seasoned and dry to approx 20% moisture content.

3. **Type of wood :** The type of wood will also have an effect on the heat output and the burn rate. Hard woods will generally burn longer while soft wood will burn faster and more intense. A good blend of two soft wood (Pine) to one hard wood (Manuka) will maintain a good fire bed and flames into the top heat exchanger of the fire.

4. **The load of wood :** The amount and frequency of the load is the best way to control the heat from the fire. The wood load is covered in this instruction.

5. **Damper Operation:** Make sure the damper is fully open when operating the fire.

SAFETY AND FIRESENSE

- NEVER leave a lit fire unattended Most fire woods will spit sparks from time to time. It is strongly recommended you use a sparkguard. Warmington have a range of sparkguards for safety and peace of mind.
- DO NOT overload the fire with large logs which could fall out and cause a fire hazard in the home. Ensure the logs are placed at the back of the fire to avoid falling onto the hearth.
- In the event of a soot or creosote fire:
  1. Alert all the people in the house and have them leave or be ready to leave.
  2. Call the fire department.
  3. Extinguish the fire using a dry chemical household fire extinguisher, or smother it with loose dirt or sand.