

Instructions for the use & care of your HOME FIRES Fireplace

Congratulations with the purchase of your new quality fireplace!

You and your HOME FIRES Fireplace are going to make a great team. The contents of this leaflet will tell you all you need to know about your new fireplace, and, if properly used and cared for, the unit will give you many years of trouble-free service.

PLEASE READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY!

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1. FIRST FIRING - IMPORTANT!

It is advisable on the first three of four firings, to light the fire during the day, opening windows for the first hour as some odour will rise off the fireplace due to the paint curing. This will disappear after the first couple of fires. It is also advisable to make moderate fires in the beginning to prevent damage to the unit and paintwork. Start with a small fire and build it gradually bigger.

2. DISPOSAL OF ASHES

When removing ashes from your fireplace, be careful and use a metal container with a tight fitting lid. Do not leave the ash pan on a combustible floor, as ash can remain hot for days. If you wish to spread ash on your garden, only do so if untreated wood has been burnt, as some wood treatment contains arsenic, a poison.

3. MAINTENANCE

The fireplace can be touched up with SNK74 spray paint as and when needed. Replace worn fireplace grids as and when needed. Inspect the flue system annually for soot build-up and/or any other blockages, eg. bird nests. Clean the flue pipe when internal soot deposits are greater than 6 mm in thickness. It is normal for any fireplace to show heat patches or some discolouration on the paintwork. Paintwork can be touched up with Plascon SNK 74 matt black paint or equal. Lubricate the shaft and bearing of the weather cowl with grease annually. External flue pipes and the cowl can be painted with any colour enamel paint. Attend to any sign of water leakage onto or inside the fireplace. Rust will damage your fireplace.

4. PRECAUTIONS

1. Use only dry seasoned wood (preferably of the acacia family) or good quality anthracite. Freshly cut wood must be stored dry and ventilated for at least one year before using it in the fireplace.
2. Do not store fuel close to the appliance (refer: Clearance to Combustibles).
3. Do not use liquid fuels to start the fire (Liquid Firelighter may be used).
4. Do not over fire (allow firebox to glow red) as this could damage your fireplace. Restrain the fire to the fire grid area and never make a big bonfire.
5. Do not burn garbage in the appliance as garbage can cause a dangerous soot build-up.
6. Do not prepare food in your fireplace.
7. Do not burn chemically treated timber as poisonous gases can be released and can be harmful to your health.
8. Chimney pots are frequently the cause of smoking problems and therefore we recommend rather the use of a Home Fires chimney cowl to prevent downdraughts and rain from entering the chimney.
9. Before lighting a fire we recommend that you pressurize the room by opening a window on the windward side slightly to ensure that the fireplace will not smoke during ignition phase and to provide sufficient combustion air.
10. If the fuel you are burning tends to splatter, the use of a fire screen is recommended to prevent damage.

5. CLEARANCE TO COMBUSTIBLES

1. A minimum clearance of 450 mm is required between the hot air outlet of a built-in fireplace and any heat-sensitive mantelpiece or shelf situated above the appliance.
2. A minimum clearance of 300 mm is required between the front edges (left & right) of the built-in fireplace and any heat-sensitive materials, other than a mantelpiece or shelf above the appliance.
3. A minimum clearance of 1000 mm is required between a free-standing fireplace and any furniture, curtains, blinds, electrical appliances or any other combustible materials.
4. A concrete, masonry or tiled hearth is necessary to protect carpets or wooden floors from damage by sparks. Hearths must extend a minimum of 350 mm to the front and 200 mm to the sides.
5. Keep the metal flue pipes at least 200 mm away from wood trusses. If closer use ceramic wool as insulator.

6. GENERAL HINTS

Laying an anthracite or log fire

1. Before lighting the fire, open a window or ventilator on the windward side slightly to pressurise the room, ensuring that the fireplace will not smoke and to provide sufficient air for combustion.
2. Place two or three layers of paper balls on the grate. These are made by scrunching up individual sheets of old newspaper into ball shapes.
3. Place some kindling (dry and finely cut small pieces and splinters of wood) or fragments of wax and paraffin fire lighters at random on top of the paper balls.
4. Pile one or two layers of anthracite or slightly larger pieces of wood on top of the paper balls. Don't pack to tight.
5. Open the damper to maximise the intake of air from the room. Once the fire is well on its way it is usually best to close the damper partially so as to reduce the amount of heat escaping up the chimney.
6. Light the paper balls in three of four randomly spaced places.
7. To assist the burning paper in heating up and igniting the coals or logs, you can use fire bellows (which increases the amount of oxygen required for the combustion process).
8. Once the fire is lit, gradually add more layers of anthracite or larger logs, taking care not to apply too much too soon, or you will dampen down the fire and possibly extinguish it.
9. When further refueling is required it may be necessary to open the damper again.

Choosing the correct fuel

1. Use dry, seasoned wood. The moisture content of wood directly affects the way the appliance operates. Well seasoned dry wood (cut, split and stacked under cover for at least 12 months) will give best results and least problems.
2. Wet or green wood not only creates more work for you due to the increased weight when carrying it, but most importantly will not burn efficiently. You will receive less heat from wet/green wood as energy is used to evaporate the moisture from the wood.
3. Ideally, seasoned wood should contain 12% to 22% moisture. Wood with a moisture content of more than 22% will require a great deal more air to light, heat output will be cut dramatically, and soot and creosote will build up in your flue system. In addition, you may have smoke warring back into the room. If you hear your wood sizzle or you can see moisture bubbling from the ends of the logs placed on a hot fire, your wood is too wet.

4. If the fuel you are burning tends to splatter, the use of a Home Fires fire screen is recommended. Low grade anthracite tends to splatter a lot. Use only high grade anthracite and use large nuts of anthracite or coke.
5. Never use wood of the pine family. Pine contains a very high amount of resin. This can cause dangerous soot build-up and which can overheat your fireplace.
6. You may use anthracite in your fireplace. Buy the best grade of anthracite in order to prevent splattering and to produce more heat.
7. Do NOT use coal or briquettes.

Flue damper control

The damper control varies the size of the throat in the fireplace, serving two purposes:

- a) Provides control over the burning rate of the fire and therefore the consumption rate of the fuel.
- b) Reduces the heat-loss up the chimney, thereby improving efficiency.

The fire in the Home Fires Fireplace is lit with the damper fully open to promote maximum draw from the fire. When the fire is burning well, the damper can be closed down to a position that will allow the fire to burn at the desired rate without smoking. This position will be determined by the draw on the chimney, the type and size of the fuel being burned and size of the fire. When loading new fuel, open the damper again to the full open position.

Because each chimney has its own peculiarities, the damper should be used as best suits your chimney. It should never be closed so far as to cause the least trace of smoke in the room.

8. MINOR DIFFICULTIES & THEIR REMEDIES

COMPLAINT	CAUSE	SOLUTION
Fireplace is not drawing and smoke is entering the room.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Damper is closed. 2. Cowl is stuck. 3. Flue stack obstructed eg. bird nests. 4. Soot deposit more than 6 mm thick on inside of flue stack. 5. Flue stack not long enough. 6. Ash drawer (-pan) is overfull and restricting airflow to the fire. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Open damper. 2. Grease cowl shaft and bearing and ensure that it turns freely. 3. Remove obstruction in flue. 4. Sweep the chimney. 5. Add another length of flue pipe. 6. Remove the ash.
Cowl is making a noise when turning.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cowl shaft and bearing is dry. 2. Cowl shaft is rotating against cowl hold-down bracket. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Grease cowl shaft and bearing and ensure that it turns freely. 2. Bend cowl hold-down bracket backwards until cowl shaft turns freely.
Water is leaking down the flue stack of the freestanding fireplace.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The roof seal is leaking. 2. Flue pipe joints are not sealed. 3. Cowl is stuck 4. Cowl is fuming into and out of the rain. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Re-do the roof seal. 2. Seal joints (collars) with silicone. 3. Grease cowl shaft & bearing and ensure that it turns freely. 4. Add another length of flue pipe.
A bad chemical smell hangs in the room after the first firing.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The paint is curing. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Open windows for the first hour as some odour will rise off the fireplace due to the paint curing. This will disappear after the first couple of fires.
The fireplace is rusting.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Roof seal is leaking. 2. Cowl is not functioning properly. 3. Chimney not high enough. 4. Roof leaking away from flue stack and water running down rafters towards and down flue stack. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Re-do the roof seal. 2. Grease cowl shaft & bearing and ensure that it turns freely. 3. Add another length of flue pipe. 4. Find leak and seal.

9. INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS -ALPINE FIREPLACES

1. Position the fireplace base (1) on prepared hearth area and determine where the flue pipe will pass through the ceiling. Ensure that there are no rafters or other obstructions in the ceiling area.
2. The fireplace may not stand on a flammable surface. A tiled concrete floor or a tiled brick hearth is safe. Ceramic wool can be used as a liner on the base floor (2) in order to prevent heat transfer to the hearth or floor area.
3. Cut hole in ceiling in line (use a plump line) with the fireplace position. Allow for 10 mm play (20 mm for

pine ceilings). (3) Remove roof tiles or cut a tight-fit hole in steel roofs to allow flue pipe to pass through.

4. Proceed as follows for the round Alpine:

4.1 Slide the dome (4) into the correct position (level at correct height); by sliding the two extended steel sides into the pre-cut slits in the base. The bottom edge of the dome section must cover the top frame of the glass screen (5) when in position and must be level.

4.2 Assemble all the flue sections, seal joints with silicone and secure with screws or rivets. (6)

4.3 Fasten the flue stack to the roof structure in such a way that the total stack is suspended from the roof. It is important to find two fixing points as far apart from each other as possible to prevent the dome from swaying. Use hanging chains (7) or one fixing point and/or construct angle iron framework (8) for fixing to roof structure and weld onto flue pipe. For low ceiling areas, construct a truss (9) and fix to top of roof to stabilise exterior flue pipe. Do not create a fire hazard in the ceiling area.

5. Proceed as follows for half-round Alpine:

5.1 Lift dome into position, bolt onto back plate and secure at top either to wall or to roof structure in order to stabilise.

5.2 Assemble the rest of the flue sections, seal joints with silicone and secure with screws or rivets. (6)

6. Proceed as follows for all Alpine models:

6.1 Wrap fibre glass insulation around flue pipes in ceiling area and secure with wire mesh. (10)

6.2 Fix escutcheon (11) around flue pipe to ceiling using silicone and screws.

6.3 Shape roof tiles with angle grinder for a tight fit around flue pipe and place in position. (12) Ensure that the tiles fit as before.

6.4 Apply high heat silicone sealer liberally into gap between roof and stack. (12)

6.5 Apply roof seal {cloth and paint product} over silicone after it has set. (12) (Lead flashing can be used as an alternative.) NB: Before using the fireplace the roof seal must be left to cure for two rain free days after installation.

6.6 Fit cowl and cowl base to flue stack and fix properly. Ensure that the cowl turns freely. (13) Ensure that the cowl shaft and bearing is greased. Ensure that the cowl base is level.

6.7 Exposed components (flue pipe and cowl) must be painted with enamel or rust resistant paint after installation. Use colour to match roof tiles. Repaint once a year. (14)

6.8 Interior components (15) can be maintained with heat resistant matt black etchcote paint (SNK 74 or equal).

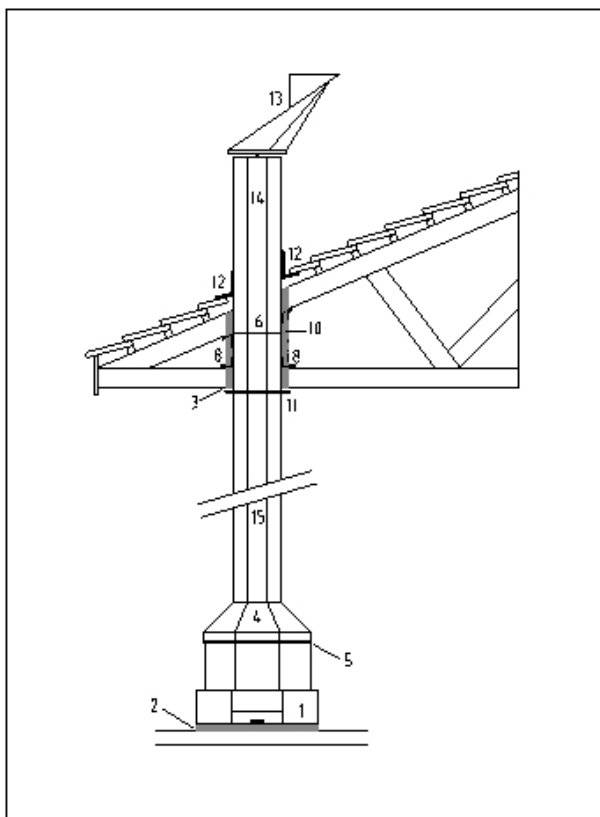
6.9 Ensure that the flue pipe is at least 200 mm away from wooden structures. Use ceramic wool to insulate properly if wooden structures are closer than 200 mm to flue.

6.10 For pine ceilings, make gap around flue pipe larger and flare insulation material through gap and between escutcheon plate and ceiling boards.

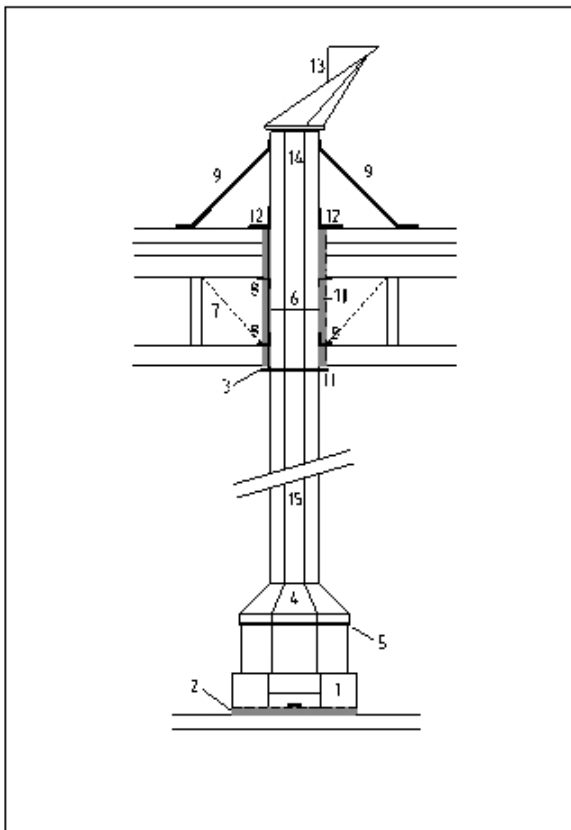
6.11 For thatch and wooden roof or any further installation information, contact your supplier.

6.12 Consult your supplier for guidelines on chimney stack heights.

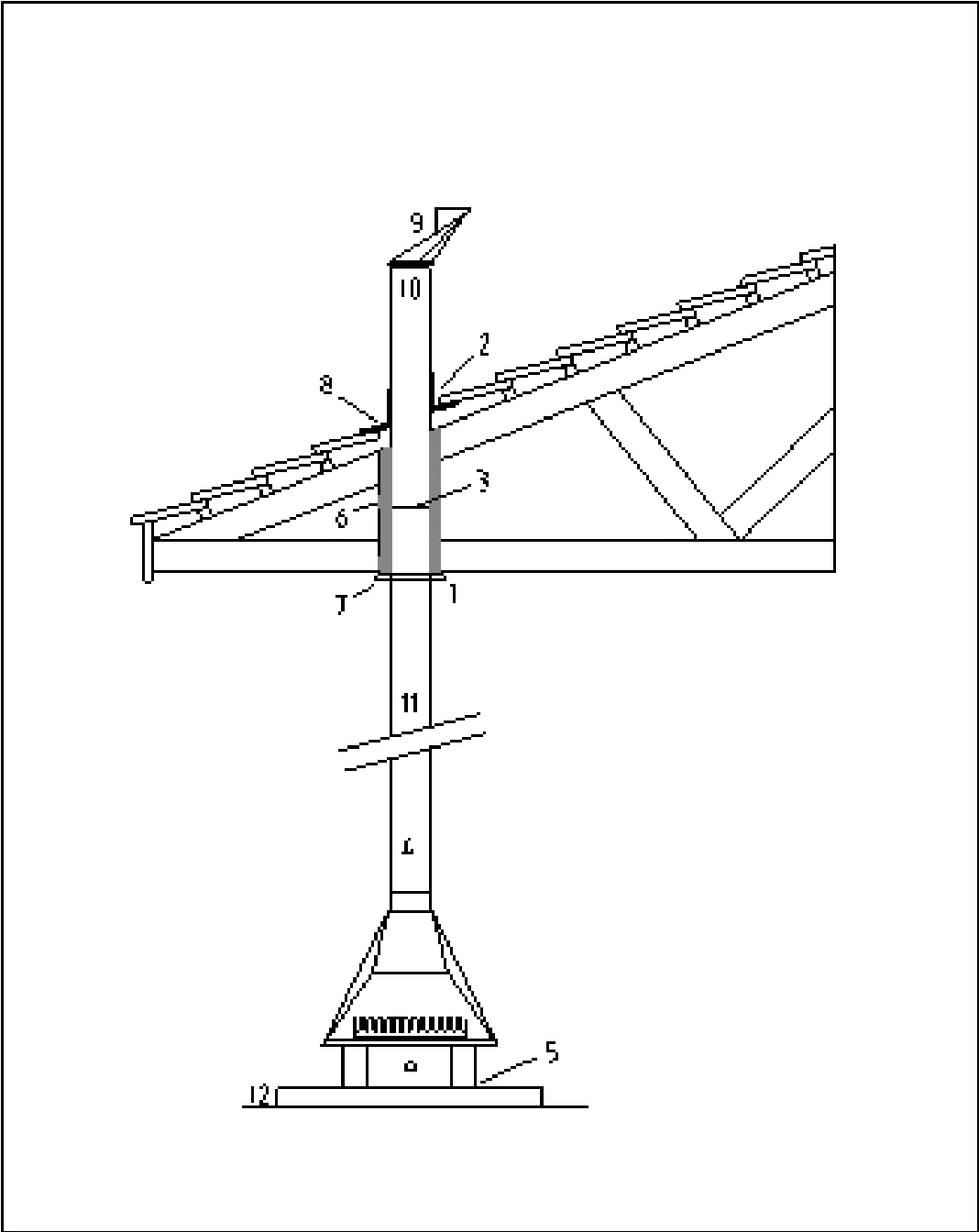
NOTE: Whilst the guarantee on this unit covers manufacturing standards, it cannot be extended to installation. Please ensure that you employ a reputable and competent body to do the installation - this will protect **your** interests.



INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS -FREESTANDING FIREPLACES

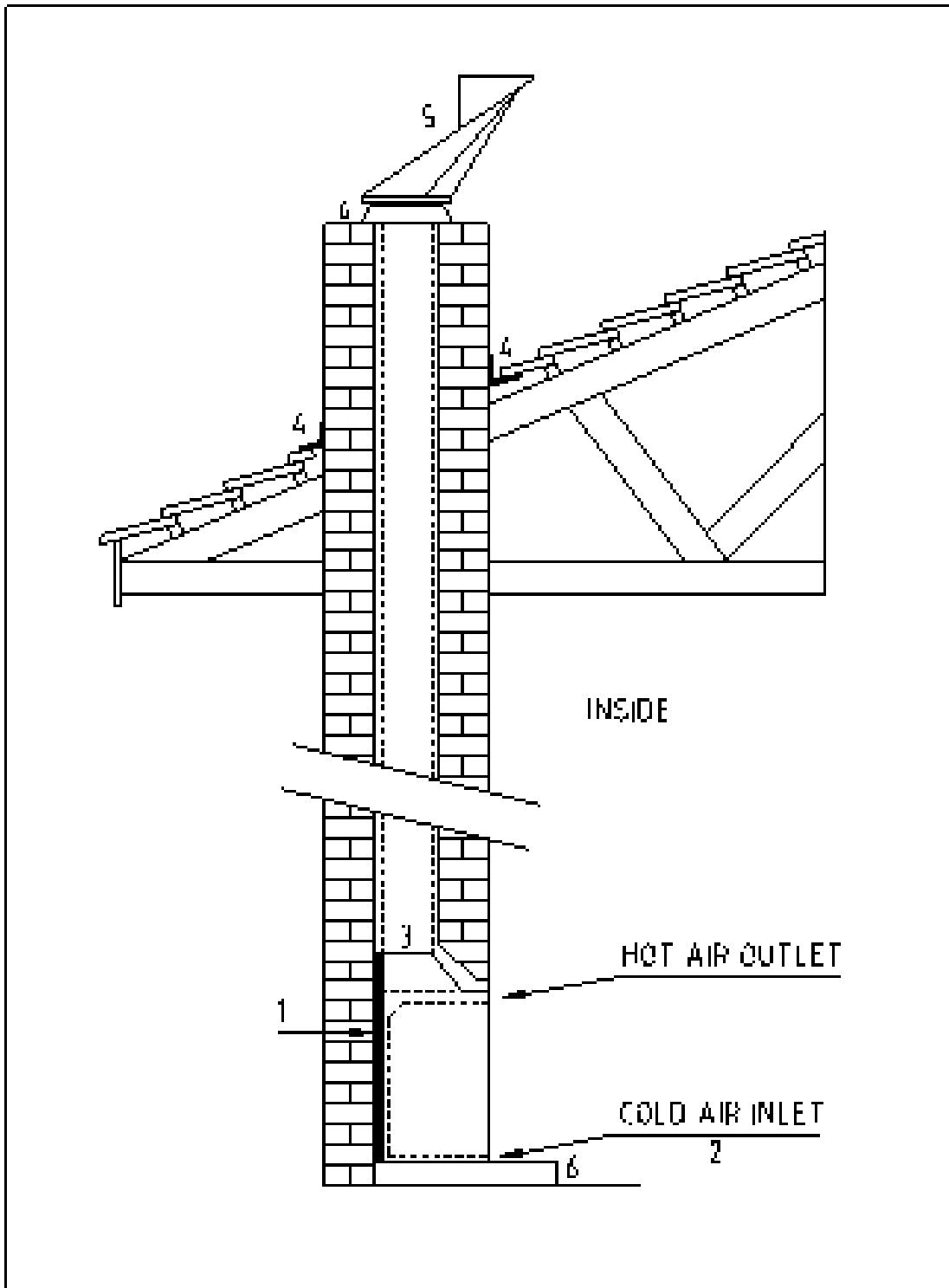


1. Position the fireplace base (12) on prepared hearth area and determine where the flue pipe will pass through the ceiling and ensure that no rafters or other obstructions in the ceiling area are in the way.
2. The fireplace may not stand on a flammable surface. A ceramic tiled concrete floor or a ceramic tiled brick hearth (12) is safe. Ceramic wool can be used as a liner in the foot piece in order to prevent heat transfer to the hearth or floor area.
3. If the fireplace cannot be moved to avoid an obstacle, make use of offset flue pipe sections.
4. Cut hole in ceiling in line (use a plump line) with the centre point on the fireplace chimney outlet. Allow for 10 mm play. (1) (20 mm or pine ceilings)
5. Remove roof tiles above this opening or cut a tight-fit hole in steel roofs to allow flue pipe to pass through. (2) Lead flashing seal is most effective.
6. Assemble all the flue sections seal joints with silicone and secure with screws or rivets. (3) Push assembled flue stack through the ceiling and roof and lower onto fireplace. Secure extra long stacks to fireplace chimney outlet to stabilise. (4) Guard against downward sag where offset is used.
7. Secure fireplace with brackets to floor or wall where necessary. (5)
8. Wrap fibre glass insulation around flue pipes in ceiling area and secure with wire. (6) Secure stack to roof structure with wire.
9. Fix escutcheon plate (7) around flue pipe to ceiling, using silicone or screws.
10. Shape roof tiles with angle grinder for a tight fit around flue pipe and place in position (2) as before the installation.
11. Apply high heat silicone sealer liberally into gap between roof and stack. (2)
12. Apply roof seal (cloth and paint product) over silicone after it has set. (8) (Lead flashing can be used as an alternative.) NB: Before using the fireplace the roof seal must be left to cure for two rain-free days after installation.
13. Fit cowl and cowl base to flue stack and fix properly. Ensure that the cowl turns freely (9) and grease cowl shaft and bearing. (Heat resistant grease). Ensure that the cowl base is level.
14. Exposed components (flue pipe and cowl) must be painted with enamel or rust resistant paint after installation. Use colour to match roof and tiles. Repaint once a year. (10)
15. Interior components (11) can be maintained with heat resistant matt black ethcote paint (SNK 74 or equal).
16. Ensure that the flue pipe is at least 200 mm away from wooden structures. Use ceramic wool to insulate properly if wooden structures are closer than 200 mm to flue.
17. For pine ceilings, make gap around flue pipe larger and flare insulation material through gap and between escutcheon plate and ceiling boards.
18. For thatch and wooden roof or any further installation information, contact your supplier.
19. Consult your supplier for guidelines on chimney stack heights.



INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS - BUILT-IN FIREPLACES

1. Position the fireplace and cover sides, back and top with fibre glass insulation. (1)
2. Ensure that a gap of 20 mm is left between the body of the fireplace (sides and back) and the brickwork, to allow for expansion of the metal structure. (1)
3. The cold air inlet duct (2) at the bottom of the fireplace must be open after installation in order for the convection heating system to function properly.
4. The inner dimensions of the chimney must not be less than the flue outlet opening size on the top of the fireplace. (3) The inside brickwork of the chimney must be finished to a semi-smooth finish. Asbestos or steel flue liners must be installed when the chimney opening is larger than the flue outlet.
5. Flue liners (steel or asbestos) will provide a smooth surface for a better draw and will protect brickwork against heat corrosion.
6. Chimney height is critical for a proper draw. 3.6 m is the minimum. Consult your supplier for guidelines on chimney stack heights for different roof types.
7. Use standard flashing material and procedures to waterproof chimney stack. (4)
8. Flue can be offset in order to avoid obstructions. (Consult your supplier in this regard.) A 45° offset is preferable.
9. A cowl (rotating or fixed) (5) will keep rain away from the fireplace in order to prevent rust. The rotating cowl will prevent down-draughts on windy days. Rotating cowl is a requirement on thatched roofs.
10. Exposed components (flue pipe and cowl) must be painted with enamel or rust resistant paint after installation. Use colour to match roof tiles. Repaint regularly. Interior components can be maintained with heat resistant matt black ethcote paint (SNK 74 or equal).
11. A raised hearth area (6) in front of the fireplace is optional on a tile floor, but essential on wooden or carpeted floors.
12. An optional ash pit with tray allows ash cleaning from the outside.
13. Contact your supplier for a large range of fireplace accessories.



9. EXCLUSION OF LIABILITY

Whilst every care has been taken in formulating these instructions, no responsibility whatsoever will attach to and/or claim lie against, the manufacturer and/or distributor of the appliance as a result of any failure to follow the whole or any part of the instructions and/or as a result of incorrect information herein and/or any omission here from. Failure to follow the whole or any part of the instructions which leads to damage to your appliance, **WILL MAKE YOUR GUARANTEE NUL AND VOID.**

AVAILABLE MODEL RANGE

The following models are available in the Home Fires range:

- A. **Built-in barbecues** in widths of 700 mm, 800 mm, 1000 mm, 1200 mm* and 1500 mm*. *Spitbraai units available.
- B. **Freestanding barbecues**, which offers the same function as built-in barbecues, without the major installation procedure, is ideal for use on your patio or indoors. Available in models 800 mm, 1000 mm or 1200 mm. Table barbecues on wheels can be used next to the swimming pool on hot summer days. Just disassemble the wheels and the unit can be pushed in an existing brick braai area. Available in sizes 700 mm, 800 mm, 1000 mm or 1200 mm.
- C. **Built-in Fireplaces** in widths of 600 mm, 700 mm*, 850 mm*, 1050 mm* and 1200mm*
*Double sided units for application between rooms available.
- D. **Freestanding fireplaces** for straight wall application, corner fitment, or island models available in sizes of 600 mm to 1000 mm, in designs to suit your requirements.

Special models available on request.

Contact your nearest Home Fires distributor.

Models also available in 3CR12 metal which is more rust resistant and is used near the coast. Please take note that models made out of 3CR12 metal also needs to be maintained and cared for. Models can also be manufactured in 304 stainless steel which is recommended when installed along the coast.

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