



## Wood Heaters

### Do I need an Approval from Council?

Yes, under Section 68 of the Local Government Act requires that you submit an application for a new or second hand wood heater.

### Do I need to have a Council Inspection prior to lighting my new wood heater?

Yes, you must obtain an approval to operate the heater from Council prior to its commissioning.

### Who can install the solid fuel heater?

The wood heater is to be installed by a suitable qualified person.

- Licenced builder.
- Owner in own home only.
- Plumber with amendment licence if appliance/labour over \$1,000.

### What Regulations apply to the installation of the Wood Heater?

The heater must be installed to meet the requirements of AS2918 (Domestic Solid Fuel Burning Appliances) and have a Test Report i.e. Amdel. These reports test Heaters and Flue Kits, to determine the distances from Combustibles and Hearth Specifications if the heater or flue has not been tested. Clearances are set by default AS2918.

*All new heaters must have a compliance plate confirming they comply with AS4013-1999.*

Before buying a new heater, check your home's insulation. 25% of heat loss occurs through the ceiling alone. By thoroughly insulating your home you can reduce heat loss by 63%.

### Chimney Information

#### Chimney Height

The Environmental Protection Act (EPA) recommends that the minimum height of the chimney be 1 metre above any structure within a 15 metre horizontal radius, to minimise impact upon your neighbours.

#### Chimney Cows

You must use a concentric shroud, this encourages the smoke to travel vertically, allowing for better smoke dispersal.

Conical caps force smoke downwards creating smoke issues.



### Check the Chimney

CHECK YOUR CHIMNEY REGULARLY, TOO MUCH SMOKE INDICATES A PROBLEM.

If your chimney smokes for more than 10 minutes when you start it or more than a minute when you add fuel, there is a problem with either the:

- Wood (not seasoned you must dry it out for 8 months if you cut your own) or;
- There is a build up of creosol, to reduce the build up of creosol/soot; it is recommended to burn your heater fast for 1-2 hours every day the fire is lit.

### Clean the Chimney

Check the flue regularly for soot or creosol (tar like substance). This creosol is flammable and may cause a flue fire.

Clean the chimney and baffle at the end of every winter for safe operation of your HEATER.

### Tips for using you Wood Heater

**Starting Fire** – Stack wood loosely in your fire box, that way your fire will burn hot and efficiently rather than smoulder, creating air pollution.

**Maintaining Fire** – Keep the flame lively, open the air intake and flue for 5 minutes before and 20 minutes after adding wood. Keep enough air in the fire to maintain a flame.

### DO NOT LET THE HEATER SMOULDER OVERNIGHT



**For further information and advice on Wood Heaters**

**Contact:**

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