

## Overview

**Gain maximum enjoyment and benefit from your stove.** This is possible only with a safe and trouble free installation. All guidelines found in this manual should be strictly adhered to. All local and national building codes need to be followed. Having a certified installer perform all connections to an inspected chimney system is strongly advised. If you choose to perform any or all of this work yourself, it must be inspected by either a *Certified Wood Stove Specialist* or a *Certified Chimney Specialist*.

You will often find the local Fire Department to be very knowledgeable. They are the ones to inspect your house for proper warning devices, storage systems, and evacuation routes. Keep their phone number handy. Although many communities utilize Fire Department personnel for woodstove installation inspections, they are not usually trained as combustion venting specialists. Generally, you are best advised by one of the certified specialists listed above.

The sense of security that comes with a properly installed and inspected system is worth far more than its cost. Consider it a gift to yourself and to your peace of mind.

## Installation

Your Woodstock Soapstone Stove has been thoroughly tested and listed to UL #1482 by OMNI Testing Laboratories. UL #1482 is the standard for testing solid fuel appliances and is universally recognized by all national building regulatory agencies (SSBB, BOCAA, ICBO) and individual states. Your woodstove is a safe product, but it must be installed in accordance with the instructions in this manual. Woodstoves themselves rarely cause fires but improper installation or careless operation do.

Follow the guidelines in the *Installation* chapter of this manual with regard to:

- Proper chimney & connector pipe
- Clearances to combustible surfaces & objects
- Floor protection

## Smoke And The Chimney

**Smoke must go up the chimney.** Anything else is unacceptable. According to [www.woodheat.org](http://www.woodheat.org), "The chimney is the engine that drives a wood heat system". To have a safe system you will need:

- The correct type of chimney
- The correct size of chimney
- Correct location inside the house
- A properly installed system

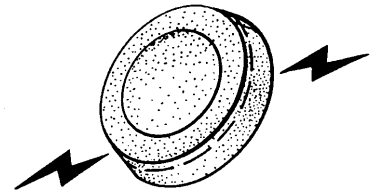
**Smoke spilling into the living space when starting a fire is an inconvenience. Smoke spilling into the house when you are away or asleep can be a major problem.** In order to have all the smoke to go up the chimney all of the time, the chimney must have positive draft. Ideally, this draft is between 25 and 40 pascals, a pressure measurement, when there is no fire in the stove. This can be determined with a simple draft test that a certified installer can perform.

## Heat

**Your stove is hot to the touch!** Proper use of the Fall-Away Handle to open and close the stove door or use of heat resistant and insulated stove gloves can prevent serious burns.

Stove screens can shield toddlers from the possibility of coming in contact with a hot stove. These screens are high quality, decorative gated fences that bring piece of mind. Families with small, active children should consider installing one. These screens are available from Woodstock Soapstone Company.

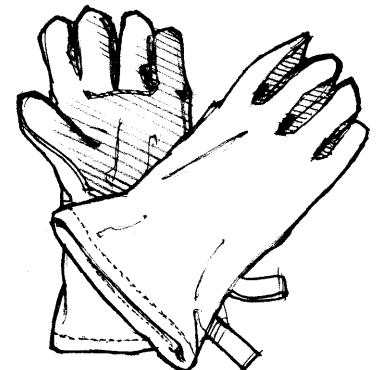
Family pets are not likely to get too close to a woodstove. The one exception is the very active cat. A startled cat will try to leap away. You should make sure that favorite perches and resting places are not within an easy bound of the stove top.



*Smoke detectors are inexpensive safety devices.*



*Dry chemical fire extinguishers are recommended for homes heated with wood.*



*Use of fireplace (heat resistant and insulated) gloves can prevent serious burns.*

## Ash Removal

**Convenient and safe ash removal** is a necessity for obvious reasons. An ash removal container should have:

- A comfortably large capacity
- Good stability
- A top that closes and that cannot fall off
- Legs or other means of preventing downward heat flow
- A configuration that prevents spilling when loading

## Safety Precautions

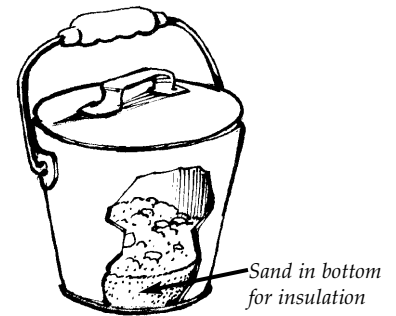
- **Smoke Detector.** A smoke detector is inexpensive insurance and is required by law in 38 states. It is usually a battery powered device that gives an audible alarm in the event of the presence of smoke. Smoke will almost always precede a wood-fueled fire.
- **Fire Extinguisher.** If you burn wood you should have at least one ABC dry chemical extinguisher. The chemical extinguisher is preferable to water because the application of cold water to hot metal stove pipes can cause metal parts to buckle or crack thereby releasing more fuel to the fire.
- **Carbon monoxide detector.** These operate in a manner similar to smoke detectors but are usually user-calibrated and record minute quantities on a digital readout before sounding an audible alarm. The chances of carbon monoxide being created and escaping from your properly installed and operated stove are miniscule. But you may have other vented appliances in your home that could be potential problems. The investment in a high quality carbon monoxide detector is well worth its cost in the peace of mind that it affords.
- **Chimney Connector Inspection.** Your connector pipe should be inspected at regular intervals and cleaned as required. Examine the stove pipe for creosote, corrosion, loose seams, or excessive soot. Clean or replace pipes as necessary.
- **Chimney Inspection.** A chimney specialist should thoroughly inspect and clean your system once a year. Be sure and ask them to show you the best way to inspect your system. A small mirror held at the cleanout door of a masonry chimney will do well. With a prefabricated class A metal chimney, some disassembly of the connector pipe is usually required.

## Further Information

We live in an information driven world and the Internet has lots of readily accessible information. The following sites offer a great deal of continually updated material:

- [www.woodstove.com](http://www.woodstove.com) (Woodstock Soapstone's website)
- [www.woodheat.org](http://www.woodheat.org) (John Gulland, the guru of venting systems)
- [www.hearth.com](http://www.hearth.com) (a commercial, but informative site with Q&A)
- [www.csia.org](http://www.csia.org) (Chimney Safety Institute of America - a database of chimney professionals, plus content)
- [www.chimneys.com](http://www.chimneys.com) (general information on chimneys)
- [www.appliedceramics.com](http://www.appliedceramics.com) (lots of good information on catalytic combustors)

In addition, we are always happy to answer your questions. Please feel free to call on our Customer Service Representatives between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. eastern time, Monday through Saturday. We are available toll free at 1-800-866-4344.



*Remove ashes only in a metal container. Never place this container on a combustible surface.*

## EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

If you have a chimney fire or a runaway fire, follow these safety precautions:

1. Close the draft damper immediately, with a slow and even motion. This cuts off the supply of oxygen to the stove.
2. Call the fire department immediately.
3. Get everyone out of the house. One adult should stay in the house to check for sparks and signs of fire. Those outside should watch the roof for signs of fire.
4. If there is danger of a fire, discharge the fire extinguisher into the stove. Do not pour or spray water directly into the chimney as rapid contraction caused by the application of cold water could cause the tile liner in the chimney to crack.
5. After the fire is out, check the stove, chimney connector and chimney carefully for signs of damage.

Note: Chimney fires must be put out from the bottom. The entire system must be air-tight to suffocate a fire; hence the importance of having a tight cover on the chimney cleanout and not venting two appliances into a single flue.

The length of time it takes to bring a chimney fire under control depends on the amount of fuel in the stove, the rate at which it is burning, and the amount of oxygen available to it. The faster it is brought under control, the better.