

Prevention Connection



Safety resources to protect your world

Checklist for Safe Woodburning Stove Installation

Provided by SECURA Insurance-Risk Management

Before starting the first fire in your stove, check the following:

1. The wood stove should have the Underwriters Laboratory (UL) testing label.
2. The stove is not too large for the size of the room that will be heated.
3. The stove does not have broken parts or large cracks that make it unsafe to operate.
4. A layer of sand or brick has been placed in the bottom of the firebox if suggested by the manufacturer.
5. The wood stove is located on a noncombustible floor or UL listed floor protection is placed under the stove.
6. Floor protection extends out 18 inches from all sides of the stove.
7. A minimum of 36 inches exists between the radiant stove and combustible material. If not, fire-resistant materials should be used to protect woodwork and other combustible materials. Or, the wood stove was installed to the manufacturer specifications listed in the owner's manual or on the label attached to the back of the unit.
8. Smoke pipe of 22 or 24 gauge is used, and total length is less than 10 feet.
9. The smoke pipe diameter is not reduced between the stove and chimney unless a reducer is built into the stove.
10. A damper is installed in the smoke pipe near the stove and the chimney flue.
11. There is at least 18 inches between the top and sides of the smoke pipe and the ceiling and walls, or other combustible material.
12. The smoke pipe slopes upward toward the chimney and enters the chimney higher than the outlet of the stove firebox.
13. The smoke pipe enters the chimney horizontally through a fire clay thimble or double wall insulated pipe and does not extend into chimney flue lining.
14. The thimble diameter is at least 1 inch larger than the smoke pipe.
15. There is an air-tight connection where the stove pipe enters the thimble.
16. A UL listed insulated safety sleeve and thimble is used where the smoke pipe goes through a combustible wall.
17. The smoke pipe does not pass through a floor, closet, concealed space or enter the chimney in the attic.
18. The wood stove is not connected to the same flue as the oil or gas furnace.
19. A UL listed class A metal chimney is used where a masonry chimney is not practical.
20. The masonry chimney is in good repair, flue lining is clean and not blocked.
21. A metal container with tight-fitting lid is available for ash disposal.
22. The building inspector has approved the installation.
23. The company insuring the building has been notified of the installation.

UDI 0507 0708