



the
original
flame



“where warmth & style meet”



Having a fireplace installed in your home shouldn't be a stressful experience – and here at The Original Flame, we're experts at taking your vision and making it happen.

There are things as a customer that you can do that will paint a picture for us of what you'd like, and what we may need to plan around as we install your dream fireplace.

The first step is to decide what fuel you'd like to burn. Would you like the convenience of gas or propane? The cost efficiency of wood? The ambiance and simplicity of ethanol or electric? The convenient "wood heat feel" of wood pellets?



Contents.



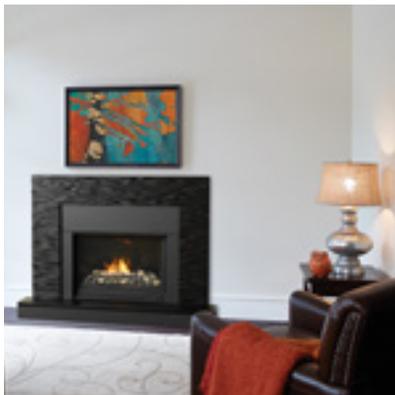
Gas
Fireplace
Types

04



Wood
Fireplace
Types

06

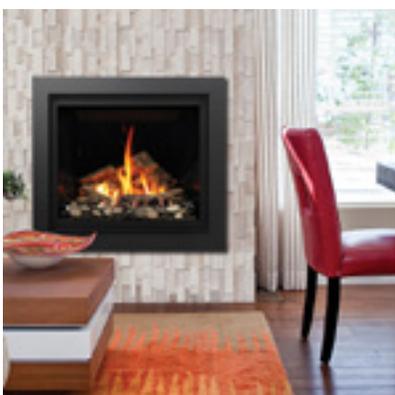


Electric
& Ethanol
Fireplaces

07

Pellet
Fueled
Appliances

08



Gas Fireplace Types

There are three different types of gas fireplaces – zero clearance gas fireplaces, gas fireplace inserts, and freestanding gas stoves. All gas fireplaces work in a power failure, which is a nice feature for people who have frequent power outages.

Zero Clearance Gas Fireplaces

These fireplaces can be in a decorative grade (less heat) or a heater grade (more heat) depending on model specifications and options. All fireplaces will provide some heat – even if they're rated as decorative grade. Most customers who need a zero clearance gas fireplace are "starting from scratch". Zero clearance gas fireplaces come unfinished and using various materials (wood, cementboard, drywall, stone) get finished around. These fireplaces have depth and have to be built in to achieve a "finished look". This finish can be a do it yourself project, but it is advisable to have our experienced fireplace finishers create the fireplace finish of your dreams, as there are many different clearances and factors to be aware of while doing a fireplace finish.

Gas Fireplace Inserts

These fireplaces go into the cavity of a brick fireplace and vent up the chimney. Some can also fit into a wood burning factory built fireplace. The most important thing for us to know when you call for information on a gas fireplace insert is the dimensions of your existing fireplace cavity – height, width and depth. Gas fireplace inserts can use room air for combustion (natural draft) or can utilize outdoor air for both exhaust and combustion (direct vent). A gas fireplace insert gives the opportunity to turn a drafty fireplace into a beautiful heater.

Freestanding Gas Stoves

Dissimilar to a zero clearance gas fireplace, these freestanding gas fireplaces come with a finished look right out of the box. Popular materials for them to be made out of are steel and cast iron, and usually, these are a heater grade fireplace, that resemble a wood stove.



One factor that comes up for many people is balancing cost efficiency versus desired location. It's true that for the most part, you can install a wood or gas fireplace essentially anywhere in a home – the question will be how much work it will take to facilitate this, and how much cost that labour will incur.

Most gas fireplaces can be installed pretty much anywhere in a home, provided that proper clearances can be met, that venting can go to the outdoors, and that gas can be provided to the fireplace.

Clearances

How far away from a hazard something can be. For example, a gas fireplace typically can't have a wood finish on the trim around the glass. A typical gas fireplace sidewall exterior exhaust termination needs to be 12" above grade and to generalize, 12" away from a door or window.

Venting

How your gas fireplace breathes. All gas fireplaces need to exhaust flue gases to the outdoors, and most gas fireplaces take combustion air from the outdoors as well (a concept known as a direct vent). Venting can be horizontal (out through a sidewall) or can be vertical (out through a roof, finishing with a raincap, flashing and storm collar).

Gas Piping

Whether the fuel is natural gas or propane, it has to be brought from somewhere to the fireplace it will fuel. Where this can be a bit of a challenge is when the piping will have to be brought through finished space, like a space that has already been drywalled. Our expert installers are phenomenal problem solvers and are usually able to give suggestions on ways that gas piping can be routed with minimal disruption – but be forewarned, sometimes drywall patching may be required.



TIP

Typically, the most cost-effective gas fireplace installations are on an exterior wall, and are near existing gas piping.



Wood Fireplace Types

Factory built wood fireplaces – these fireplaces have similar characteristics to zero clearance gas fireplaces – these fireplaces have depth and come unfinished. They are vented through a roof with chimney, and utilize outside air as well as room air to combust. These fireplaces can vary from decorative grade to heater grade, and some models can be EPA certified because of their low emissions and high efficiency. These fireplaces are very low maintenance, usually just requiring a yearly chimney sweep.



Freestanding Wood Stoves

These EPA certified, high efficiency secondary burn or catalytic wood heating appliances range in colour, shape, size, size of space that they are able to heat, and material they're constructed from. By far the most versatile appliance we work with here at The Original Flame, a freestanding wood stove is put into a frequently used living space and radiates heat. A factory built stainless steel chimney as well as double walled smoke pipe are used to exhaust the smoke from the woodstove. Whether through a set of many secondary burn tubes or through a catalyst, every effort is made on the part of a modern wood stove combustion system to utilize all the potential fuel energy from the wood and smoke saving you money. Many modern woodstoves can be set within 12" of drywall (and most even less) and can have a hearth pad underneath them made of glass, cementboard, metal or tile/slate/granite. Woodstoves need to have floor protection 18" in front of the loading door and 8" to the sides and rear.

Wood Fireplace Inserts

Wood fireplace inserts, like their gas burning siblings, are inserted into the cavity of a brick fireplace. Again, one of the most important factors for giving a quote on a wood fireplace insert is the dimensions of the brick fireplace cavity – height, width, depth. These are high efficiency space heating appliances and are not decorative grade. They use ceramic glass (which radiates heat better than steel or cast iron) and blower systems to move heat into the room they're burning in.

Electric & Ethanol Fireplaces



Advantages of these particular fireplaces:

- Typically install in the same manner you'd hang a picture on a wall
- Tend to be less expensive than their gas or wood burning counterparts
- Provide some heat, and tend to be rated to "take the chill off" approximately 400 square feet.

Ethanol Fireplaces

Ethanol fireplaces burn a denatured alcohol and have a real flame. These fireplaces typically have a 3-6 hour burn time on a load of fuel, and the fuel is sold by the gallon. The fireplace can be "turned off" (snuffed) midway through the burn and typically, this will help conserve fuel when the fireplace is not in use. These fireplaces tend to be wall mounted, and install in the same manner that you would hang art on a wall.

Electric Fireplaces

These fireplaces can be inserted into a brick or coal fireplace opening, built in to a cabinet, wall mounted, or built into a false wall. They typically have a 6' long cord, and a licensed electrician can be contracted by you to help conceal this cord if you so desire – otherwise just plug them in. These fireplaces have come a long way since their inception, and get a lot of praise when people come into the showroom.



Pellet Fueled Appliances



Pellet Stoves

Pellet stoves are a workhorse appliance. Pellet stoves burn compressed wood pellets, and utilize electricity and fans for combustion. Pellet stoves typically have 3" venting which comes out of the rear of the stove, and this tends to go up the outside of a home's exterior wall to terminate at an elbow and cap. These fireplaces tend to create some noise as they generally use at least two fans, and their flame looks different than a typical wood burning flame. There are many moving parts in a pellet stove, and to generalize, most of the customers who buy a pellet stove tend to be willing to take on the project of cleaning, fixing, replacing parts, etc. These fireplaces require electricity to operate, and are power dependent.



Pellet Inserts

These fireplaces go into a brick fireplace cavity and have all the characteristics of a freestanding pellet stove. These appliances tend to "come into the room" a bit more as they have a bit more depth in order to facilitate loading the pellet hopper. Most people who utilize a pellet burning insert are looking for the high heat feel of wood heat, without having to split, stack, and clean up after traditional cordwood.





Whatever choices you make regarding your fireplace, we want you to have the style you want, the features you want, and to feel comfortable and confident with your fireplace decision. Here at The Original Flame, we are completely confident that we can satisfy all your needs and provide the education that you need to make a decision that will give you a warm winter for years to come!



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