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## LOG ON TO A WARMER WINTER

**Ahh, clean sheets and freshly brewed coffee: two of life's simple joys. But neither come close to sitting in front of a roaring fire with toasty tootsies and rosy cheeks, especially while winter rain relentlessly lashes against your window.**

In days of yore a burning flame meant predators were kept at bay and food could be cooked and digested more easily. These days there is more chance of you experiencing bare faced cheek than being eaten by a bear but the ambience created by a burning flame remains as attractive as ever. And the cost and efficiency from a modern fireplace is both cheap and cheerful.

Considering the low cost of operating a wood heater there is a definite perception of luxury that goes with a crackling fire. Not least when you add a glass of your favourite red and sit back in the knowledge that not so much as a flicker of bad weather could interrupt the moment.

Power cuts and turbulent weather have little effect when all that's needed to keep your hearth warm is a few logs. Burning wood really is one of the most romantic and desirable ways to spend an evening so if you're renovating or looking for new ways to heat your home, spend some time scanning the range of AS/NZS4013 compliant wood heaters and you might just re-ignite some spark back into your life.

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**For further information or images contact Hannah Hempenstall, Media Officer,  
Australian Home Heating Association or visit [www.homeheat.com.au](http://www.homeheat.com.au).**

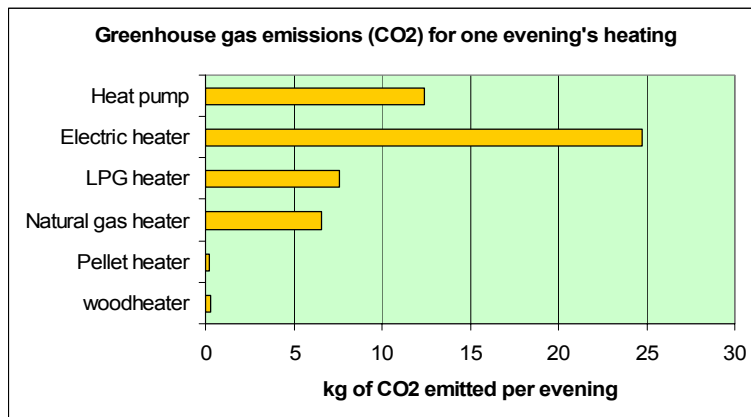
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But it's not just the ambience that makes wood fires so appealing. Standard approved wood heaters are highly energy efficient and emit very little smoke into the environment when used correctly. So while you enjoy the amber glow and cackle warming heat, you can rest assured you have made a wise choice with a wood burner.

**DID YOU KNOW? Wood which is burnt properly in a modern certified wood heater produces no more carbon dioxide than if the same wood were left to decay on the forest floor.**

### 5 THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT WOOD HEATING

1. It costs less to heat your home with a wood heater than it does to run most gas or electric heaters.<sup>1</sup>
2. The amount of greenhouse gases produced while burning a fire is the same as if the tree was left to rot on the forest floor.
3. You can install a modern certified wood heater for less than \$3,000.
4. Wood heaters are carbon neutral. That means the trees planted for firewood offset the amount of carbon produced during burning.
5. Modern wood heaters are built to meet Australian Standards AS/NZS4013 to ensure that correctly operated wood heaters are highly efficient and emit very little smoke.



<sup>1</sup> Comparison of Residential Heating Costs and Greenhouse Gas Emissions for Firewood, Gas and Electricity by Dr John Todd, June 2005.

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