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## TURN UP THE HEAT

**There's tonnes of reasons why heating with wood is so good - and here's a few of them...**

### IT'S SUSTAINABLE

Firewood has long been a useful source of heat, and knowing that trees are continually being planted to sustain forest farming can put a glow in your heart as well as your hearth. Wood heaters are a natural option for anyone wanting maximum heat with minimal effect on the environment.

### IT'S EASY TO USE

There's nothing simpler than building a fire - you just need to know how. For the best results load your wood heater with plenty of newspaper, kindling and fire lighters. Once you've established a blazing flame, add a couple of small logs and open the air vents fully for about 15 minutes. Then sit back and enjoy\*.

### IT NEVER LETS YOU DOWN

When other energy sources fail due to overload or adverse weather conditions then a wood heater will save the day. Completely self sufficient, all you need to keep a fire going is firewood, kindling and a box of matches. Some radiant style heaters incorporate stove top cookers so if the power does go down in your area you'll never be cold or hungry!

### YOU CAN BUY IN ADVANCE

Buying firewood from a reputable supplier ensures you get the best wood which equals less smoke and a cleaner burn. It's best to purchase a year in advance as the firewood will have extra time to evaporate any excess moisture (the key to a good fire). With wood you know exactly how much you've spent and there's no surprise bills involved.

### IT IMPARTS THE MOST HEAT

No other residential room heaters can match the heat output of a wood heater<sup>1</sup>. With their mix of radiant and convective heat, wood heaters offer the perfect warmth. First you warm up quickly by standing near the fire (radiant heat) and once toasty you can nestle into your favourite chair and soak up the circulating heat (convection).

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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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\* For further information on safe and efficient wood heating, the AHHA DVD Clear Skies is loaded with education tips on getting the most from your appliance and reducing smoke emissions. For a free copy simply call the Association on (08) 9351 9288. Or visit our website [www.homeheat.com.au](http://www.homeheat.com.au) and download the consumer fact sheet with heaps of useful hints on buying and/or maintaining your wood heater. Keep our skies clear!

#### **FIRE SAFETY RULES**

- Install a smoke alarm and check the batteries regularly
- Use a fire guard to protect against sparks and flying embers
- Never use oil, petrol or kerosene to light a fire
- Always position clothes and other combustible materials at least two metres from the fire
- Store matches and lighters away from children

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

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