



Essential Stove Tips



Welcome to the Charnwood family



*Our stoves are made in Great Britain from
the very best of British materials.*

Within this small book are a few helpful tips to get you started with your stove. More specific details on Charnwood stove models can be found in our stove instruction manuals and on our website **charnwood.com**



This book is available in other languages as a digital download. Please scan this QR code:



History of Charnwood

— est. 1972 —

We've been designing and making wood burning stoves here on the Isle of Wight for almost 50 years.

Charnwood began back in 1972 when Alfred J Wells and his sons started up a small engineering business in their workshop on the Isle of Wight. Fueled by rapidly rising oil prices and a plentiful supply of wood across the UK, due to the advent of Dutch Elm disease, the trio struck upon the notion of making a small, efficient wood burning stove for heating homes. The stove was a roaring success. Since then we have steadily grown our product offering

and invested in a state-of-the-art factory while continuously developing our innovative clean burn technology. Today our stoves are sold worldwide yet we still remain a family run company that is passionate about British design and manufacture. Our aim is to simplify the wood burning process making it as clean and green as possible. We hope you enjoy your Charnwood stove and we trust it brings you many years of warmth, comfort and cosiness.

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Choosing your wood



1

SELECTING THE BEST LOGS FOR YOUR FIRE

Your Charnwood stove is designed to run on seasoned or kiln dried wood. It is very important that the logs you burn have a moisture content of less than 20%.

Hardwoods such as ash, birch, beech or oak are renowned for burning hot, clean and for longer periods. Softwoods such as fir, pine and sycamore can be used but will burn faster with moderate heat output. Freshly cut logs generally contain over 60% water and should be dried for 18-24 months before the wood is ready to burn.

There are four key stages to seasoning wood

1

SPLIT wood into logs to a size to suit your stove's firebox. Split some smaller pieces to use as kindling.

2

STACK the wood in a place that gets plenty of sun and wind. A pile of wood may rot before it has time to season, so make sure the logs are stacked in a way that allows air to circulate. Ideally, keep the stack off the ground and away from the house. Never stack above head height to prevent injury from falling logs.

3

COVER the stack to protect it from rain and snow. You can cover just the top, or the sides as well – just make sure the air can get in and that moisture isn't getting trapped.

4

STORE the wood for 18-24 months or until the moisture content is below 20%. It's a good idea to bring wood inside two or three days before you intend to burn it to make sure it's properly dried out and ready to use.

KILN DRIED WOOD is another widely available alternative. The wood is cut, split and dried in large ovens, which speeds up the seasoning process. Look out for the *Woodsure Ready to Burn* label which guarantees a moisture content of 20% or less.



Lighting your fire



2

GIVING YOUR FIRE THE PERFECT START

There are several stages to building and lighting a successful fire in your Charnwood stove. As mentioned previously it is important to only use well seasoned, dry wood with a moisture content of less than 20%.

Follow our four simple steps when making your fire. By running your stove in this way you will achieve maximum efficiency with minimum emissions.



1

Place 2-3 smaller logs on the stove bed. On top of this build a *Jenga* stack of 6-8 kindling sticks and place a natural fire lighter inside.



2

Fully open the air control for maximum air intake and a quick and easy ignition. Light the fire lighter.



3

Close the door but leave it slightly ajar. This helps to heat the chimney flue for a clean burn. Once the fire is burning well close the door and reduce the air control.



4

Every time a log is added open the air control again until the fire is burning well and then return the air control to normal. Re-fuel little and often.

A rustic kitchen scene featuring a white wood-burning stove, a heart-shaped cushion, and shelves with jars.

Maintaining your stove



3

CLEANING AND CHECKING

The winter months are when your Charnwood stove will see the most use. Regular maintenance will ensure your stove burns safely and efficiently while giving you many years of service.



CLEAN THE GLASS

If soot accumulates on the stove glass we offer an effective *Atmosfire* dry wiper for cleaning. For any stubborn stains you can use a stove glass cleaner or ceramic hob cleaner but avoid using any abrasive cleaning products.



CLEAN THE SURFACE

When it comes to cleaning the exterior surface of your stove and the surrounding area, you can't go far wrong with a soft brush and a damp, lint free cloth. It is important you only clean your stove when it is unlit and cool to the touch.



EMPTY ASH PAN

When burning wood it is helpful and effective to start your fire on a bed of wood ash but avoid letting the ash build up too much. When your Charnwood stove is not in use empty out the ash pan and firebox completely.

INSPECT DOOR SEALS

Take the opportunity to regularly check the rope seals on the doors and around the flue to ensure your fire box is air tight and the doors close firmly. A well sealed stove will burn much more efficiently and effectively.



A FRESH COAT OF PAINT

For a quick touch-up or a complete colour change we offer cans of our high temperature stove paint in the 8 Charnwood colour options. This is a simple yet brilliant way to give your stove a new lease of life.



SWEEP FREQUENTLY

It's important to keep your flue clear of blockages and soot and we recommend you have your chimney swept at least once a year. Your Charnwood stove is fitted with a drop-down throat plate allowing you to sweep through the appliance with minimum mess.





Fireside accessories



4

ENHANCE YOUR STOVE EXPERIENCE

Charnwood offer a wide range of accessories designed to optimise the performance of your stove and enhance your fireside experience. From log baskets and fireside tools, through to cooking and gift ideas.

You can find our full range of accessories along with spare stove parts on our website **charnwood.com**



COOKING PLATE

Available for most of our models this cast iron plate replaces the blanking plate on a Charnwood stove where a rear outlet has been fitted to create a highly effective hot plate for cooking. It comes complete with 4 trivets.



TOASTING FORK

The perfect gift for any stove fanatic. Simply place the magnetic holder onto the stove top and suspend the fork in front of the glass. The fork and holder is made from stainless steel with a turned beech handle.



BODJ FIRESIDE

A range of sustainably sourced fireside accessories for the ethical and style-conscious home. From basketware to fireside tools all these artisan products are made by a number of small fair trade initiatives we work with based in Cambodia. For more information on the products and projects visit bodj.co.uk

MOISTURE METER

Used to check logs are dry and properly seasoned before burning. Insert the prongs into the grain of the wood to determine its moisture content.



STOVE PIPE THERMOMETER

A simple device that attaches to the flue pipe to show the rate at which your stove is burning. This allows you to adjust the fire accordingly so you don't damage your stove by over or underfiring.



DRY WIPE GLASS CLEANER

The *Atmosfire* dry wipe is an easy and safe way to clean your stove glass without the use of water or chemicals.



STOVE SPARE PARTS

We provide spare parts for your stove such as glass, rope seals and grate bars through our network of official Charnwood stockists. You can also purchase these from our website charnwood.com

FIRE BALL

A sculptural outdoor fire pit with a rustic finish. This iconic piece is cut from mild steel and supplied as a flat pack kit making it the perfect present for someone who enjoys a small project. The satisfaction of building this product is all part of the experience.





Be part of
the story



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