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The instructions should state the height of the chimney required above the roof or surrounding structures and the types of chimneys acceptable for the installation. The size of the flue connecting pipes will also be described and the size of pipe and gauge and type of metal to be used.

If the appliance is electrically controlled, the manufacturer's instructions will include a wiring diagram showing factory wired sections and wiring required in the field. Local wiring codes should also be studied carefully and complied with.

The chimney must also be cleaned regularly. Creosote buildup associated with the burning of some grades of wood and coal presents a fire hazard.

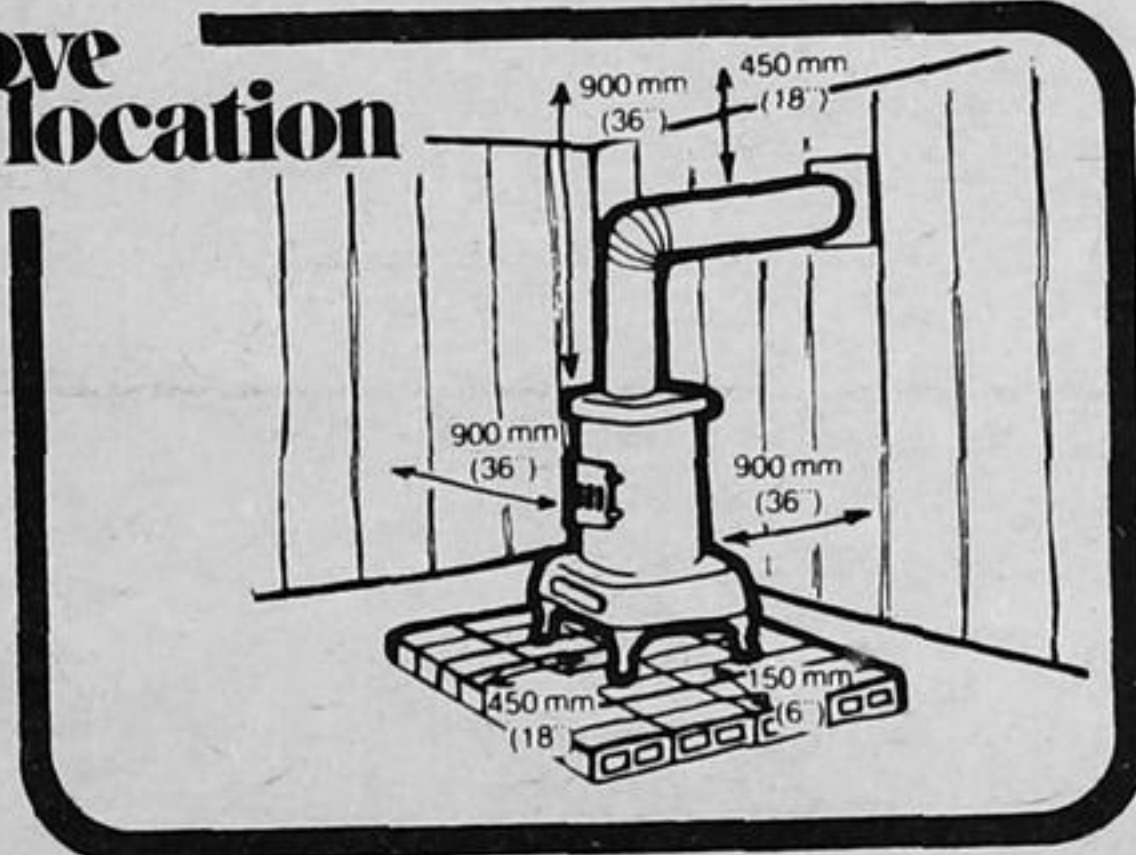
Ideally a stove should be connected to its own chimney with nothing else connected to it. Otherwise there is a danger that flue gases will be drawn into the house through a second opening under certain weather conditions.

the stove

The Stove — The stove, including the grates, should be in good condition. Doors, dampers, etc., should be tight enough so that very little air is taken in thereby allowing you to control the rate of combustion.

The stove should have a stable base or legs, and stand on an insulated floor pad. Plain sheet metal does not provide adequate protection. The floor pad should also be large enough to prevent live coals from dropping on the unprotected floor when ashes are removed. A good rule is to have the pad extend 18" beyond the stove on the firing and ash removal sides and at least 6" on the other sides.

stove location

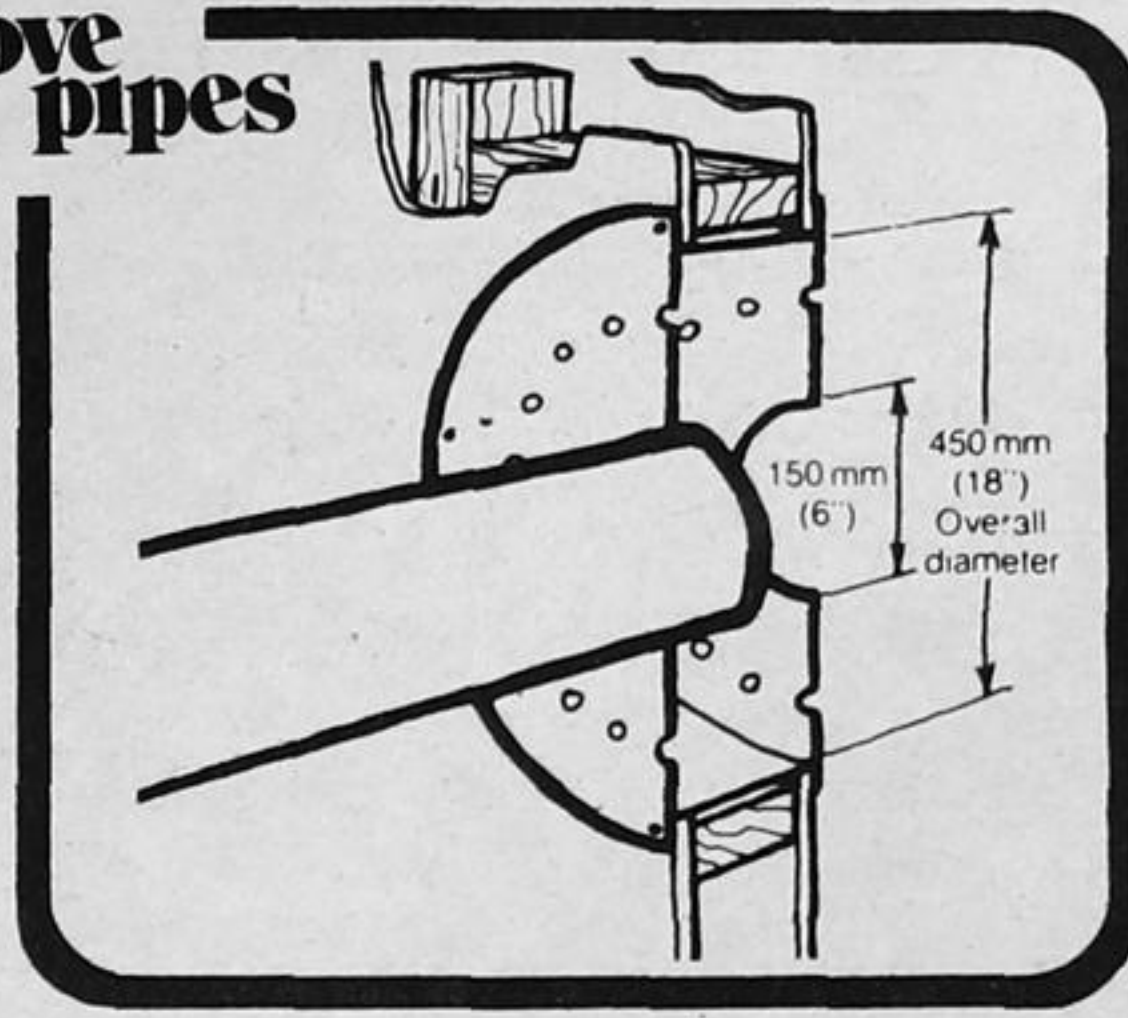


Stove Location — The stove (or metal fireplace) must be kept well clear of walls and partitions. If the wall or partition is not protected, the stove should be at least 36 inches away. If a metal and asbestos shield is used, with at least one inch clearance between the shield and wall, the stove can be located as close as 18 inches. Anything less is unsafe. Similarly, combustible furniture and other flammables should be kept at least 36 inches away from a stove or fireplace.

With heaters or furnaces approved for use on non-combustible floors, further protection can be provided by installing the unit on two courses of four-inch thick masonry blocks, arranged so that the hollow cores are at right angles to each other to permit air circulation.

It's important that the installation of the stove, ducting and pipes comply completely with manufacturer's instructions. The clearances from combustibles vary greatly between the different types of heating equipment — i.e. stoves, furnaces, combination wood/oil units and prefabricated fireplaces.

stove pipes



Stove Pipes — Make sure that your stove pipes are in good condition and cleaned regularly. Here again creosote buildup can present a fire hazard. To minimize buildup, pipes should be as short as possible.

Every effort should be made to avoid having stove pipes pass through walls, partitions or ceilings. If a pipe must pass through a wall or ceiling, a heat-dispersing "thimble" should be used. Since

most walls have 2 x 4 uprights 16 inches apart, reconstruction is necessary before a pipe is passed through. Otherwise, there is danger that the uprights will ignite with heat from the pipe.

ventilation

Ventilation — Some coal and wood units consume a great deal of oxygen from the interior of the house. If your house is tightly sealed it may be necessary to have an outside duct providing air to the stove or furnace. Because they are tightly sealed, mobile homes are a particular hazard.

If you do not have a proper air supply, it is possible that your family will be asphyxiated.

fuel

Fuel — The resins and gases produced by a smoldering fire don't burn off but go up the chimney where they condense into creosote. After a period of time, lighting a fire in the stove can set the chimney aflame. Although creosote buildup cannot be completely eliminated when a wood stove is used, it can be reduced by alternating smoldering fires and hot fires. Another major factor in keeping creosote buildup to a minimum is the use of good, dry, well-seasoned wood. The combustion efficiency is much higher than that of green or partially dry wood. When green wood is used, the moisture content is driven from the wood in the heater and creosote formation is a direct result.

The best kinds of fuelwood are generally the heavy hardwoods. Conifers such as pine and spruce will produce good kindling wood which will ignite easily and burn with a quick, hot flame to get the main fuelwood blocks going. Of the deciduous species, white birch and poplar are perhaps the easiest to split and will also produce quick heat for kindling. For the main body of the fire, however, deciduous species such as oak, maple, elm and ash with higher specific gravities will produce the best heat over the longest period of time.

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD GASOLINE, COAL OIL, USED MOTOR OIL OR MACHINE OIL OR MANUFACTURED LOGS BE USED FOR STARTING A FIRE.

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