



PYROCLASSIC FIRES

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Model: Pyroclassic® Mini Wood Burner

Pyroclassic fires are unique and work differently from other wood burners. Please take your time to read through these instructions to maximise the benefits of your new Pyroclassic® Mini.

Save these instructions for future reference.



IMPORTANT NOTE

Pyroclassic® fires have been in production for more than 30 years. Our experience, along with other New Zealand manufacturers, is most issues relating to obtaining maximum efficiencies come from loading the fire with wet wood (more than 25% moisture content). The New Zealand Home Heating Association report that as much as 95% of complaints received are a result of poor fuel.

We strongly suggest you read the 'Firewood' section on page 6 in this booklet.

WATER HEATING

Water heating is by *low pressure thermosiphon*. The capacity of the wetback booster is 180mls.

Excess heat from the wetback booster to the domestic hot tank should be dissipated using a 'heat leak' radiator. A drain-cock must be fitted in the lowest part of the system. See Pyroclassic Mini wetback booster installation instructions included with the wetback for more information. A copy of these instructions can be downloaded from www.pyroclassic.co.nz.

Minimum safe distances from unprotected combustible materials:

Back - 350mm, Side - 480mm (See technical specifications sheet on protection measures).

This appliance is not suitable for use in a shared flue system and should not be operated in a room with another combustion heater.

WARNING: *There must not be an extractor fan in the same room or space as the appliance as it may cause the stove to emit fumes into the room.*

IMPORTANT AND USEFUL INFORMATION

Thank you for purchasing the Pyroclassic® Mini freestanding wood fire. At Pyroclassic Fires, we take pride in manufacturing this high quality, low emission fire which has enjoyed over 30 years of proven reliability and high efficiency.

WARNING:

- This appliance should be installed by a trained and NZHHA qualified installer.
- The appliance and flue system must be installed in accordance with AS/NZS 2918 and the appropriate requirements of relevant building codes.
- Appliances installed in accordance with this standard shall comply with the requirements of local standards where required by the regulatory authority. It shall display compliance tag reading “Tested to AS/NZS 4013”
- Any modification of the appliance that has not been approved in writing by the testing authority is considered to be in breach of the approval granted for compliance with local tested standards.
- Cracked and broken components e.g. glass or ceramic, may render the installation unsafe.
- Maintain a clearance of at least 1m between the front of the fire and building structure or any other substantial permanent object.

To help you obtain all the benefits the Pyroclassic® Mini offers, we ask you to ensure the following four important steps are performed:

1. Correctly complete your warranty card and return it to us either in person at our factory, or by mailing to:
Pyroclassic Fires Ltd
PO Box 14057
Hastings, 4159
New Zealand
2. The wood you use in the Pyroclassic® Mini should be good quality, dry wood with a moisture content of 25% or less, 12% - 18% is ideal for clean, efficient heat. A digital moisture meter is available in our Essential Kit which you can use to test your wood fuel.
3. Please read this operating manual thoroughly as even individuals who have significant experience with wood fires can learn from this.
4. Before the start of the winter season, follow this maintenance checklist on your fire:
 - ✓ Have the flue professionally swept using a suitable sized brush.
 - ✓ Ensure the door seals sufficiently all the way around.
 - ✓ Ensure the door spindle lines up with the hole in the front plate when the door closes and that it is lubricated with grease.
 - ✓ Inspect the air tubes and load limiter assembly to ensure there are no cracks/holes that have appeared. If so, depending on the amount of wear, consider getting replacement air tubes installed.
 - ✓ Remove the front panel and ensure the two primary air inlets are clear.
 - ✓ Make sure the turboslide is sealing flush against the front plate of the fire by looking down the side of the decorative panel.

FIREWOOD

Any wood burner that is not operating correctly creates high emissions and will not heat your home properly. Simple methods to ensure clean burning and efficient heating are:

- Plan ahead.
- Stock up on your wood fuel at least 6-12 months before winter to allow the wood to air dry. Stack wood loosely in a dry place so air can pass freely through the pile.
- Burn dry, well-seasoned wood. Check your wood with the moisture meter supplied as longer drying times may be necessary.
- The ideal size of wood for the Pyroclassic Mini is from 25mm-120mm (1" - 5") in diameter, cut into 300mm-400mm (12" - 16") lengths. *Note: shorter pieces are less convenient and efficient to use. Let your wood merchant know what **you** want for **your** money.*
- Do not burn wet or green wood, plastic, domestic refuse, painted or chemically treated wood, plywood, driftwood, particle board or coal in your Pyroclassic® Mini as they will damage your fire.
- Burn small, hot fires near the back of the fire chamber.
- Observe the position of the load limiter bars in your wood burner to avoid placing too much wood in the fire. However, it is necessary to stock up the firebox to achieve an overnight burn of 10+ hours.

CAUTION:

THE USE OF SOME TYPES OF PRESERVATIVE-TREATED WOOD AS FUEL CAN BE HAZARDOUS.

DO NOT USE FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS OR AEROSOLS TO START OR REKINDLE THE FIRE.

DO NOT USE FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS OR AEROSOLS OR PLACE THESE IN THE VICINITY OF THIS APPLIANCE WHEN IT IS OPERATING.

DO NOT STORE FUEL WITHIN THE HEATER INSTALLATION CLEARANCES.

THIS APPLIANCE SHOULD NOT BE OPERATED WITH A CRACKED GLASS.

THIS APPLIANCE SHOULD BE MAINTAINED AND OPERATED AT ALL TIMES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THESE INSTRUCTIONS.

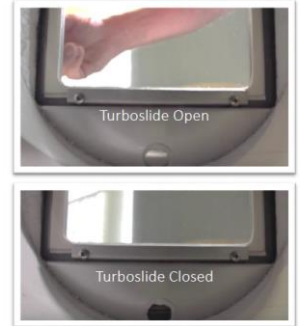
THERE SHOULD BE NO UNAUTHORIZED MODIFICATION OF THE APPLIANCE.

REPLACEMENT PARTS MUST BE GENUINE PYROCLASSIC FIRES PARTS, OR THOSE RECOMMENDED BY THE MANUFACTURER.

OPERATING USE AND MAINTENANCE

USE OF TURBOSLIDE

The turboslide covers a hole that allows start up air to enter quickly into the chamber to ignite your fire. To open the hole, move the turboslide to the left or right. When your fire is well established (30 – 60 minutes depending on wood type), slide the turboslide back into the middle position. Always keep a small area around the very front of the fire chamber free of ash and char so the hole is clear and the turboslide can work effectively. Simply push back the build-up a little with the Pyroclassic rake.



Please note: The turboslide is to be used only for the initial start-up of fires and to help ignite fresh fuel if required. By following these instructions, you will enjoy low emissions, high thermal efficiency and conserve your wood supply. Not following these instructions can result in damage to the air tubes inside the fire chamber and accelerated discolouration of your flue pipes.

LOADING FIREWOOD

Do **NOT** try and insert wood sideways. The orientation of the Pyroclassic Mini's unique fire chamber ensures you can only insert firewood lengthwise. Burning wood end to end and along the grain like this is far more efficient than across the grain. Wood grows from the ground up, not parallel with the ground!

CONTINUOUS AND OVERNIGHT OPERATION

The Pyroclassic® Mini is a heat store and small, hot fires store surplus heat in the refractories. The unit then continues heating like an electric storage heater. There are a few simple steps to follow to ensure your fire burns overnight with a solid ember bed for relighting the next morning. Firstly, make sure you have a hot, glowing ember bed all the way to the back of the firebox. Load the firebox with large logs approximately 45 minutes before you go to bed. Open the turboslide to boost the air supply to the fresh fuel load. When hot, bright flames are well established, close the turboslide. This method will help you get all the available heat out of your firewood. In the morning, rake hot embers out of the ash to the front of the firebox. Remember to keep the turboslide hole clear to allow air in to rekindle the fire. Add kindling and a few larger pieces on top. With the turboslide open, you should have a roaring fire in less than 10 minutes. You may not be able to maintain an overnight fire with certain soft woods. For more information on how to achieve an overnight burn, watch our instructional videos online at www.pyroclassic.co.nz.

AIR SUPPLY

The room or space containing this appliance needs no additional ventilation unless a draught stabilizer is fitted, in which case a permanent opening of at least 1,500mm² should be provided. Any air opening must be kept clear from obstructions. Due consideration should be given to air requirements for any other appliances in the same room or home, such as heat transfer kits, kitchen range hoods, laundry dryers, bathroom vents etc.

REFUELLING ONTO A LOW FIREBED

The wood fuel inside a Pyroclassic® fire burns best on a thin bed of ash and hot coals. Refuelling must be carried out onto a sufficient quantity of glowing embers so the new fuel will ignite. Add suitable kindling if necessary. If a new fuel load is left without suitable ignition then a buildup of unburnt volatile gases can occur. This puts stress on the unit, which can lead to an internal explosion when these gases do combust. Always ensure adequate ignition and combustion of fuel and use the turboslide as instructed. If there is insufficient burning material in the firebed to light new fuel, excessive smoke emission can occur.

OPERATING USE AND MAINTENANCE

THE PYROCLASSIC® MINI IS SELF-REGULATING.

The vigorous fire towards the front of the chamber automatically slows down as the burning advances towards the back of the fire chamber. Each cycle ends with ash and hot ember at the far end of the chamber. The Pyroclassic® Mini is designed to save on firewood and keep emission levels to a Minimum by storing surplus heat in the cylinder, which normally goes up the flue. This heat is released into the room even when the fire is low at the end of each burn cycle.

REFUELLING and using the PYROCLASSIC TOOLS

Use the rake to evenly distribute the hot ember and ash along the base of the fire chamber, ensuring there is sufficient hot ember at the front to provide adequate ignition to the fresh fuel load. Load the fuel so one end of each log is in contact with the back wall of the firebox. If you keep your fire burning under the air tubes, this will ensure the maximum amount of heat is captured within the ceramic cylinder.

Please Note: Only use Pyroclassic Fires tools as using others may cause damage to the cylinder. Always take care not to heavily impact the ceramic surface.

DOOR/DOORKNOB

DO NOT run the fire with the door open. It will never reach the correct operating temperature and this can be very dangerous.

The door seals with little pressure so it may be hard to open when the unit is very hot. The door knob is a great indicator of what is going on inside your fire so if you find the door knob is too hot when you go to refuel, you are probably trying prematurely. Do not overtighten the door knob as it can cause damage to the door gasket and fixing screws.

If your door knob is starting to show signs of charring, you are probably burning your fire too close to the door. Try closing the turboslide sooner and letting the fire burn further back in the fire chamber.

Do not lean on the door or use it to help you stand when it is open as this can cause the door to move. If your door does become misaligned, loosen the top bolt and lift the door back into the correct position and retighten the bolt.

AIR INLETS

Do not block any fixed air inlets as this will affect the fire's performance and may cause permanent damage.

BURNING WITH THE PYROCLASSIC® MINI

Solid wood must change to gas and vapour before any burning can take place. This change occurs by heating wood to high temperatures, making gas fuel. Low temperatures will make smoke and tars that are simply unburnt fuel. The Pyroclassic® Mini is a North/South burning fire, which means the fire is started in the front of the fire chamber and continues along the length of the wood to the rear. To get the most out of your firewood, ensure logs are placed lengthways into the fire chamber, not sideways. To achieve a high temperature in the fire chamber quickly, use the turboslide and dry wood. You will never get the fire to burn correctly if you try starting fires with green or wet wood. The only fuel authorised for use with this appliance within Urban Clean Air Sheds and Smoke Control Zones is well-seasoned wood with a moisture content of 25% or less, 12-18% is ideal.

GREASING THE DOORKNOB SPINDLE

A small amount of graphite grease should be applied to the spindle of the doorknob, usually twice a year is sufficient. Ashes from the fire have a gritty texture and over time this can cause wear on the doorknob spindle. Using a matchstick or cocktail stick, lubricate the groove in the first thread. Use the door grease sparingly as too much will melt and dribble, causing an unsightly stain. Remove any excess before relighting the unit.

CLEANING THE DOOR GLASS

The air wash over the door should keep the glass clean. A dirty glass is a sign of a fire that is not getting hot enough, normally caused by trying to burn unseasoned or unsuitable wood. If your door glass needs cleaning, scrunch up two pieces of damp newspaper, dip one in cold fire ashes and rub over the inside of the glass. Use the other to rub over the glass to remove the dirt from the ash. Get into the habit of cleaning it regularly as this will maintain the glass and prevent ashes from fusing. Clean the glass when it is cooler, such as in the morning before rekindling the fire. If your fire is operating correctly, your door glass should have a light, white cloudy appearance.

Please note: This appliance should not be operated with a cracked glass.

FLUE CLEANING/CHIMNEY SWEEPS

The Pyroclassic® Mini flue will only clog up if you burn wet wood, fuel with an inadequate air supply, or if the fire chamber does not reach normal operating temperature. We recommend your flue be swept at least once a year, or more frequently if necessary (i.e. if you notice smoke coming out of the open door). Pyroclassic fires are different from other wood fires and should be swept from the top down into a tray at the bottom of the flue; if excess buildup has occurred then it may be necessary to remove the top plate from the fire to empty out the top chamber. Do not allow the chimney sweep to dismantle the flue or take the cooktop off unless they are sure they know what they are doing.

Please ensure whoever is sweeping your flue has watched our 'How to clean the flue of a Pyroclassic fire' video online at www.pyroclassic.co.nz.

Please note: Before relighting the fire after a prolonged shutdown, check the flue for any blockages, such as birds nesting in the chimney.

LIGHTING YOUR FIRST FIRE

Do not be alarmed if your fire does not perform well or even goes out during your first fire. It can take several fires to fully cure the ceramic cylinder before full performance can be achieved. You may notice a small amount of moisture appear under your fire on the hearth, this is completely normal.

Allow adequate ventilation when you light your fire for the first time as smoke and odour are released as the special heat-resistant paint cures. This will not last long and should not happen again.

HOW TO LIGHT YOUR FIRST FIRE

1. Soak the re-usable fire starters in methylated spirits.
2. Slide the turboslide to the far right or far left position.
3. Place DRY kindling and a few small logs lengthways in the front of the fire chamber, leaving a clear space in front of the air inlet hole.
4. Place a soaked fire starter just under the kindling at the front of the fire chamber and light it. Close the door.
5. Once the fire is well established and you have a nice bed of hot embers, move the turboslide to the central position to cover the air inlet hole.
6. When opening the door to load more wood, slide the turboslide to the far left or right open position and continue from Step 5.

A video of how to light and maintain a fire in a Pyroclassic Mini can be found on our website – www.pyroclassic.co.nz

*Please note: The fire starter can be retrieved from the fire once it has stopped burning. Use metal tongs and place the fire starter on a non-combustible surface, i.e. a block of stone, concrete or tile. When it is **cold** it can be stored in a jar of methylated spirits, ready for your next fire.*

TROUBLESHOOTING

If your query is not listed below, visit the 'Help Centre' at www.pyroclassic.co.nz.

SLOW START-UP

- Open the turboslide by moving it to either the left or right position.
- Check the start-up hole (behind the turboslide, inside the chamber) is free of ash and char and rake back any build-up.
- Check for air leakage around the cooktop, around the flue collar, and in the flue pipe joints. Air bypassing the fire chamber reduces draft. Repair air leaks.
- This could be from using large or wet logs, or loading fuel on too few hot coals. Use dry kindling to start the fire quickly. Do **not** use wet fuel (see the *Firewood* section in this booklet for more information).
- Insufficient draft: Review chimney construction and investigate air pressure levels in the home.
- Warm, humid conditions outside or an inversion layer: Wait until the flue pipe is hot.

DENSE SMOKE

This is likely caused from the burning of plastic materials, fire retardant treated wood or high resin content wet wood. Burn only well-seasoned wood and ensure it is positioned lengthwise in the cylinder.

EARLY MORNING PALE BLUE SMOKE

This is caused by burning off small creosote deposits formed by premature banking of the fire the night before.

SMOKE ENTERING THE ROOM

- Negative pressure in the room, possibly caused by a household electric exhaust fan or severe pressure difference in a windstorm: Open a window to equalise the pressure.
- Severe down draft due to surrounding structures, hills, trees or roof layout. If you think your home is suffering from down draft, download the troubleshooting info sheet from our website – www.pyroclassic.co.nz.
- Flue is clogged: Clear the obstruction and investigate the cause.

GASES & SMOKE ENTERING THE ROOM WHEN THE DOOR IS OPENED

- The most common cause of this issue is a clogged flue. Get a sweep in to clean your flue, ensuring whoever is sweeping the flue has watched the *Flue Cleaning* help video online at www.pyroclassic.co.nz.
- Opening the door during the maximum degassing of fuel. Wait until the flames disappear.
- This can also be indicative of a very cold flue temperature. Allow the initial startup fire to warm the flue pipes.

HIGH FUEL CONSUMPTION

- Loading door is not airtight: Check the gasket.
- Incorrect operation: The Pyroclassic is a heat store, so try adding logs less often and burn the fuel further back in the fire chamber.
- You might be leaving the turboslide open for longer periods than intended. The turboslide should only be used when lighting the fire and for igniting a new fuel load.
- High flue draw: investigate cause and consider an H type cowl if consumption is excessive.

LOW WATER HEATING CAPACITY

- The most likely cause of this is a low temperature, poor performing fire. A video illustrating the best way to light and maintain a fire in a Pyroclassic Mini can be found online at www.pyroclassic.co.nz. If your fire continues to underperform, it could be due to one of the points raised above.
- Your plumber may have incorrectly fitted the wetback booster. Get your plumber back to check the layout as the system must have continuous rise. Wetback information can be downloaded from our *Resources* section on our website – www.pyroclassic.co.nz.

TROUBLESHOOTING

NOISY OR PULSATING WATER HEATING

Get back your plumber/wetback installer to check the layout as this is most likely an improperly constructed water-heating circuit. A copy of the Wetback Installation Instructions can be downloaded from www.pyroclassic.co.nz.

DOORKNOB CHARRING

The expected lifespan of a doorknob is somewhere between 4 - 10 years depending on how the fire is operated. There are two typical causes that lead to premature failure of the doorknob:

1. Excessive charring on the back of the knob due to high levels of concentrated heat from burning wood too close behind the door area.
2. The door being overtightened when it is closed which in turn leads to it being very tight to open once the fire is hot. Continued overtightening causes the screws to weaken and then come loose and break away from their fixings.

To avoid these issues and extend the lifespan of the doorknob, keep a clear area of approximately 10cm in the front of the fire chamber and maintain your fire underneath the air tubes. This will give you the additional benefit of letting the cylinder absorb the maximum amount of heat from your fuel load. Only tighten the door enough for the rope to make a contact seal, further cranking of the door knob

CRACKS IN THE FIRE CHAMBER

Due to the fire chamber being cast as a one piece cylinder it goes through some expansion and contraction every time it is heat cycled and this results in different levels of cracking. This is just the cylinder relieving its inert tension and has no effect on the operation, performance, or useful life of the unit. For more information on this topic, watch our *'Why are there cracks in my cylinder?' video*, online at www.pyroclassic.co.nz.

BACK PUFFING OR MINOR GAS EXPLOSION

- Rake not used to bring hot char forward or burning wood at the wrong end. Use the rake as per the operating instructions on page 8 of this booklet.
- Turboslide not opened or blocked after reloading large, cold logs.
- An insufficient bed of coals needed to ensure the adequate ignition of a fresh fuel load.
- Wood fuel which is too wet for burning. Split a large log and spike the center with the moisture meter provided with your Pyroclassic fire. Moisture content should be less than 25%, ideally 12% - 18%.
- An explosive substance such as a battery or aerosol container loaded into the fire chamber. This is **VERY** dangerous, do **NOT** do this.

FIRE WILL NOT BURN OVERNIGHT

- Turboslide left open. See page 7 in this booklet for more information on how to use the turboslide effectively.
- Loading door not airtight.
- Insufficient fuel load. The Pyroclassic Mini burns approximately 0.9kg of wood per hour. Softwoods are lighter and therefore less fuel can fit into the cylinder, making it more difficult to achieve overnight burns. Well-seasoned hard woods are ideal for extended burn times because of their density. See *'Pyroclassic Fires Customer Handbook'* for more information.

If you are struggling to get your Pyroclassic fire to burn overnight, it is worth watching our videos online at www.pyroclassic.co.nz, which illustrates how to achieve an overnight burn and a typical overnight burn cycle.

DOOR LOCK HARD TO OPERATE

- Apply a small amount of high temperature grease to the thread as per instructions on page 9. Grease with graphite or molybdenum disulphide only.
- You may be overtightening the door spindle thread. The door on a Pyroclassic Mini seals with minimum pressure. Do **not** overtighten this door as this will shorten this life of the handle and gasket.

ASH SPILLS & DE-ASHING

Make sure you have a metal (non-combustible) ash container with a lid and store it outside on concrete or bare ground. Use the Pyroclassic shovel to empty the fire chamber when it is cool. Be careful as ash almost always contains some hot ember. **Never** use a vacuum cleaner. *Pot ash can be great for your garden if your soils are acidic. Use only ash from a cooled fire which used good quality wood.*

SAFETY NOTES

FIRES CAN BE DANGEROUS

Always use a fireguard in the presence of children, the elderly or the infirm. In New Zealand and Australia, AS/NZS 2918:2001 guidelines should be followed. In the UK the fireguard should be manufactured in accordance with BS 6539 – Fireguards for use with solid fuel appliances.

OVERFIRING

It is almost impossible to overfire your Pyroclassic® fire beyond its design capacity as the firebox will withstand temperatures in excess of 1500°C. However, if any part of the unit starts to glow red, ensure the turboslide is closed and allow the fire to die down. You will be unable to refuel it during this period due to high temperatures around the loading door.

FUME EMISSION

If properly installed and operated, this appliance will not emit fumes. Persistent fume emission must not be tolerated as it indicates a problem and the following actions must be taken:

- Open doors and windows to ventilate the room.
- Let the fire die out or safely remove and dispose of the fuel in the appliance.
- Check the chimney for blockage and clean if required.
- If necessary, seek professional advice.

IN THE EVENT OF A FLUE/CHIMNEY FIRE

- Raise the alarm and let others in the house know.
- Call the relevant emergency services.
- Move furniture and rugs away from the appliance if possible.
- Get out.

Thank you for purchasing a Pyroclassic Mini, we hope it fulfils all of your expectations and more!

Manufactured by:

Pyroclassic Fires Ltd
917 Karamu Road North
Hastings
Hawkes Bay 4122
New Zealand
Ph.+64 (0)6 877 0175
Fx.+64 (0)6 877 7501
info@pyroclassic.co.nz
www.pyroclassic.co.nz

European distribution:

Lowton Cottage,
453 Newton Road,
Lowton,
Warrington,
WA3 1NZ
03333 231271
info@pyroclassic.co.uk
www.pyroclassic.co.uk

