



Frequently Asked Questions

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE FIRE

What are EcoSmart™ Fires?

The EcoSmart™ Fire is a new, innovative style of open fireplace. It is environmentally friendly, aesthetically appealing, efficient and cost effective. The modular design means it is versatile enough to fit into a wide range of architectural environments. Whether installed in a loft, studio, apartment, terrace house or freestanding home, the EcoSmart™ Fire provides the 'primal' warmth and comfort of fire while enhancing the contemporary aesthetics of today's living environments.

How are EcoSmart™ Fires different?

Unlike traditional fireplaces, EcoSmart™ Fires do not require any form of permanent fixture or fitting, such as a flue for ventilation or a permanent connection for fuel delivery. They are very user friendly and are specifically engineered with maximum safety and fuel efficiency in mind. It takes just seconds to start generating heat almost instantaneously through an open flame fuelled by an environmentally friendly renewable energy commonly known as Denatured Ethanol.

Are EcoSmart™ Fires easy to install?

EcoSmart™ Fires are designed to be easy to operate and easy to install. Without the need for a flue or pipe connection, EcoSmart™ Fires are extremely flexible and can be incorporated at any stage of your interior decorating, renovating or building works. For detailed specifications please contact your local distributor.

How long does it take to assemble?

There is virtually no assembly. Our Designer and Grate Ranges are designed to be placed into the desired location, secured into position and operated immediately. The Renovator Range is designed to slot into place, secured and built around with your desired finish – again a quick and easy installation – your builder will love you!

Can EcoSmart™ Fires be installed everywhere?

Almost everywhere! EcoSmart™ Fires cannot be installed into bathrooms or rooms that are less than 70m³ [200ft³] per burner. For all other installations you must comply with our compulsory clearances and installation instructions. Approval from building authorities may be required prior to installation in your area. Please make sure you contact appropriate parties before installing your EcoSmart™ Fire.

How much fuel does the Burner hold?

The EcoSmart™ Burner holds 5 litres of fuel.



Will the fireplace heat up the room?

The EcoSmart™ Fire is efficient because it is flueless which means all the heat stays in the room rather than most of it being flued outside as residual emissions. EcoSmart™ Fires are not only a beautiful addition to your home and a perfect lifestyle feature, their thermal input is 14 Mj/h – 13,000 BTU – 3.5 Kw/h – that's equivalent to 2 electric heaters. You can expect it to heat over 35 sqm of living space quite easily.

How many styles of EcoSmart™ Fires can I choose from?

The EcoSmart™ Fire Collection is quite extensive, from burner kits, zero clearance fireboxes, designer portable pieces of furniture and grate inserts, there is a fireplace solution for just about any architectural environment. Our burner kit in essence provides a 'clean canvas' to enable a tailored solution to be created.

Can you control the amount of heat?

The fuel is housed in a stainless steel burner chassis. You can turn it on and off as desired and control the intensity of the flame through its built-in regulatory mechanism. This feature means you can manipulate the amount of heat being generated and the quantity of fuel used. The life of the fire is determined by the amount of fuel in the burner. Once the fuel is burnt there is nothing to clean or clear.

How hot does the fireplace get?

All of the models available from The Fire Company have been temperature hazard tested and comply with appropriate standards. Our fitted free-standing models are designed to push most of the heat out of the firebox. The fittings remain cold or barely warm even on top of the furniture. Only the area inside of the box where the flame burns is very hot. It is safe to touch anywhere outside of the box. All external surfaces are finished with a fireproof paint.

Can the EcoSmart™ Fire be setup on carpet or against the wall?

Yes you could safely set up your free standing EcoSmart™ Fire on your carpet, polished floor board or against the wall. Standards do not require a non combustible base or a screen for the front. Nevertheless, non combustible bases such as stainless steel or stone to sit your model on are available through The Fire Company and can be custom made.

Can someone come to my home to install it for me?

Our products are designed to be easily installed. The Designer Range is operational immediately. There is no installation or building work required. The Burner & Renovator Range can be installed by any builder or cabinet maker of your choice. Comprehensive Installation Guidelines are provided.



Can I use my existing fireplace?

The Burner & Renovator Range can be installed once the flue has been closed off and all connections to utilities have been officially disconnected by the relevant suppliers. It is also important that the connections have been isolated & comply with minimum clearance zones.

The Grate Range provides a selection of fireplace inserts that incorporate the EcoSmart™ burner in a simple, traditional manner. A great way of rekindling a closed off open fire or perhaps, creating a unique fireplace feature - without the fuss.

Has the product been tested and is it safe to use?

Instructions and specifications for the EcoSmart™ Fire were tested as far as practicable to a selection of clauses from AS4553/AG103 – Australian Standard for Gas Space Heaters (closest comparable product at the time of invention).

U.L. & U.L.C. Pending

How do you light the fire?

Our Instruction Manual that accompanies the product outlines everything you need to know to operate the EcoSmart™ Fire safely and efficiently. Lighting the EcoSmart™ Fire is as simple as dip, ignite, dip – just follow the instructions and seconds later you can enjoy a healthy, warm flame.

Denatured Ethanol burns a stationary flame and does not spit out sparks, emit dusty soot, smoke or release harmful exhaust gases. The life of the fire is determined by the amount of fuel in the EcoSmart™ Burner, and once it has burnt, there is nothing to clean or clear. The fire is out, ready for you to restart at your leisure when cooled.

Can you extinguish the fireplace before the fuel has all burnt?

Yes, you can turn your fire off at any given time even before the fuel has run out. It is recommended however, that you leave it to burn until it runs out. The shut off mechanism is there for security and safety for those times when you need to leave the house as it is not safe to leave a fire unattended.

How do I clean the EcoSmart™ Burner?

All of the stainless steel can be cleaned using a soft cloth and some liquid stainless steel cleaner.

Once all of the fuel has been burnt and the Burner is cool, you can run hot tap water through it for a few minutes to remove any traces of the Denatured Ethanol.

It is normal for stainless steel to become discoloured over time when it is exposed to constant heat.



QUESTIONS ABOUT THE FUEL

What is Denatured Ethanol?

Ethanol is an absolute alcohol, produced by the fermentation of sugars originating from agricultural and forestry products; mainly sugarcane, potatoes, bananas, beetroot and recently from cereals such as wheat. In accordance with various global regulations Ethanol (100% alcohol) cannot be sold in its purest form to avoid human consumption. Ethanol producers de-nature ethanol with various substances for re-sale purposes and it is then called Denatured Ethanol.

Is Denatured Ethanol environmentally friendly?

Denatured Ethanol is classed as being easily biodegradable; miscible in water and when it burns the residual emission is carbon dioxide and water steam. It is completely composed of biological products resulting in a neutral ecological balance.

How long will Denatured Ethanol burn for?

In general 5 litres OR 1 1/4 Gal of fuel would last from 7 hours on MAX and up to 20 hours on MIN setting.

Where do I get Denatured Ethanol?

You can purchase Denatured Ethanol in standard packaging of 1, 2, 4 and 20 litres from Supermarkets, Hardware Stores, Petrol Stations, and Corner Shops. Contact your local distributor for more information – ask if they have a fuel supply service in your area.

How much does it cost to run?

The cost of 1 litre of Denatured Ethanol varies depending on place and quantity of purchase. On average you look at AU\$2.50 per litre so that's equivalent to the price of a cappuccino each evening.

What are the emissions when burning Denatured Ethanol?

The result of combustion of Denatured Ethanol is water, steam and carbon dioxide. The ratio of CO/CO₂ passes standards for flue less gas fireplaces and the amount of Carbon Monoxide is negligible.

Does it smell?

There is no smell whilst the EcoSmart™ Fire is burning. There is a slight smell once the flame is extinguished – similar to when you blow out a candle. The smell will soon dissipate into the air.

How do you store Denatured Ethanol?

Denatured Ethanol is classified as a Flammable Liquid Class 3, PG II and is regulated by various standards around the world. You must familiarise yourself and comply with these regulations in order to safely and legally store, handle, decant and use this fuel. Refer to www.ecosmartfire.com for commercially available fuel names around the world.