



# Gas Fireplace, Stove and Insert Safety Checklist

Gas fireplaces, stoves and inserts are a great way to add warmth, beauty and comfort to any home; however the glass fronts can become extremely hot during and even long after operation. Touching the hot glass can lead to serious, irreversible burns. Follow this safety checklist to prevent injury.

## GENERAL

- **Increase Awareness** – Make sure family members and guests are aware that the glass panel of a gas fireplace, stove or insert can be very hot.
- **Cool Down** – Wait for the appliance and glass panel to cool down before allowing anyone to get near it. Cool down can take a long time – an hour or more. Since some appliances use a thermostat to automatically turn the fire on/off, you may not know when the fire was actually turned off.
- **Exercise Caution** – Always consider the glass as potentially hot.

- **Read Owner's Manual** – Always read the owner's manual for safe use.

## CHILDREN AND AT-RISK INDIVIDUALS

- **Never Leave Unattended** – Always supervise children, the aged, infirm or pets near an operating gas fireplace, stove or insert – or one that has recently been turned off.
- **Explain** – Explain fireplace, stove and insert safety with children and at-risk individuals, and make sure they know they should never touch the glass panel.
- **Secure Remote Control** – Keep the remote control (if your appliance has one) out of the

reach of children. It may be possible to shut off your remote when not in use. Consult your manual.

- **Install Switch Lock** – Install a switch lock to prevent children from turning on the gas fireplace, stove or insert. Operation of these switches differs by manufacturer, so be sure to read the instructions carefully.

## SAFETY PRODUCTS

- **Install Protective Screen or Barrier** – Consumers with existing fireplaces, stoves or inserts should consider installing a protective screen or physical barrier to protect contact with hot glass, especially if there are children or other at-risk individuals in the house. Safety products come in various forms, including:

**Attachable safety screens** (fastens to the front of the fireplace, stove or insert). Aftermarket safety screens that attach to the fireplace, stove or insert could adversely affect the safe operation of your unit. Contact the safety screen manufacturer to verify that the safety screen is approved by the fireplace manufacturer for your appliance.

**Free-standing safety gates** (barriers set up to prevent access).

**Free-standing fireplace screens** (constructed of mesh screen and set back from the fireplace or stove front).

- **Get Informed** – Proper fit of your protective screen or barrier is important, so ask an expert. Visit [SafeFireplaceTips.com](http://SafeFireplaceTips.com), contact your fireplace, stove or insert manufacturer, or visit a hearth products specialty retailer for advice on safety products that meet your needs. To locate a retailer, please visit: [HPBA.org/retailer-locator](http://HPBA.org/retailer-locator).

For more information, please visit [SafeFireplaceTips.com](http://SafeFireplaceTips.com), or contact a hearth specialty retailer in your area.



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