SEASONED WOOD GUIDE
Seasoned wood has been cut and left out to dry for a long period of time, reducing the amount of moisture and sap for optimal burning in a wood appliance. Proper seasoning affects heat output, cleaning ease, emissions and catalyst life. This guide explains how to season and store firewood.

FUEL
- Wood logs (refer to wood chart on following page) aged 12-16 months
- Best time to cut is after leaf fall, when amount of moisture in wood is lowest
- Do not use skids, pallets and treated or construction lumber; they can cause overfiring and damage to your stove or fireplace

PREPARING TO MEASURE MOISTURE
- Select 4-6 pieces from different areas of wood pile
- Split each piece just before measuring

USING THE MOISTURE METER
- Insert probes into the newly exposed surface and take a reading. No need to force it in, you’re testing the surface.
- Use average of measurements taken
- 18% to 20% moisture is ideal (wetter will reduce heat; dryer will reduce burn time)
- 34% Moisture is considered too wet

RESULTS OF BURNING WET WOOD
- Low heat output
- Smoking
- Creosote build-up
- Chimney fires or worse

PROPER STORAGE & SEASONING
- Structure should be covered on top
- Structure should be open on sides to allow airflow
- Cross-stack wood evenly to allow airflow
- Do not wrap in plastic; it holds moisture in
### Choosing the Best Wood for Your Stove

#### Good Heat
- **Ash**
  - Steady flame
  - Good heat output
  - Best when seasoned at least one year

- **Beech**
  - Dense wood
  - Burns clean and hot
  - Best when seasoned one to two years

- **Black Locust**
  - Burns efficiently
  - Good heat output
  - Good flame
  - Best when seasoned at least one year

- **Hawthorn**
  - Slow to burn
  - Good heat output
  - Best when seasoned one to two years

- **Sugar Maple (Recommended)**
  - Burns efficiently
  - Good heat output
  - Good flame
  - Best when seasoned at least one year

#### Slow Burn
- **Apple**
  - Slow and steady burn
  - Small flame size
  - Does not spark or spit
  - Best when seasoned at least two years

- **Cherry (Recommended)**
  - Slow to burn
  - Burns at medium heat
  - Sweet burning aroma
  - Best when seasoned at least one year

- **Elm**
  - Dense, hard wood
  - Slow to get going
  - Best when seasoned two years

- **Oak (Recommended)**
  - Dense wood
  - Slow to burn
  - Low flame
  - Best when seasoned one to two years

- **Walnut**
  - Slow to burn
  - Limited smoke
  - Best when seasoned at least one year

- **Yew (Recommended)**
  - Slow to burn
  - Good heat output
  - Sweet burning aroma
  - Best when seasoned two-three years

#### Fast Burn
- **Alder**
  - Burns fast
  - Poor heat output
  - Sweet burning aroma
  - Best when seasoned at least one year

- **Chestnut**
  - Burns easily
  - Burns at low heat
  - Heavy smoke
  - Best when seasoned at least two years

- **Poplar**
  - Poor burn
  - Heavy smoke
  - Best when seasoned 6-12 months

- **Sycamore**
  - Good flame
  - Moderate heat
  - Best when seasoned at least one year

#### Good for Kindling
- **Birch**
  - Quick to burn
  - Burns bright and hot
  - Best when seasoned 6-12 months

- **Cedar**
  - Easy to burn
  - Low heat output
  - Heavy smoke and spark
  - Best when seasoned 6-12 months

- **Pine**
  - High sap content
  - Messy to burn
  - Best when seasoned 6-12 months