

WOOD BURNERS – MASTER YOUR MACHINE!

If you've got a woodburner in your living room, you'll want to make sure it's all tuned up and ready to rumble for the colder weather. Just like you give your car a WOF every year, you need to make sure your woodburner is operating safely and efficiently so that you get the best performance from it.

The best way to check performance is to get a flue and woodburner check from a qualified chimney sweep or wood burner supplier.

Things that might indicate a problem are:

- Broken fire bricks
- Baffle plate damage
- Worn or split door seals
- Air control knobs not sliding freely
- Blocked flue caused by debris, build-up of residue or bird nests
- Smoke leaking into the room when you light the fire.

TOP TIP

The money you spend on a wood burner check and flue clean will be recovered by having a more efficient woodburner.

SMOKE PATROLS OVER WINTER

Council's compliance officers will soon start their morning and evening smoke patrols – and will call in to homes that regularly have a smoky chimney.

Where possible we try and take an educational approach, so we will try and help you get your woodburner working properly. If the problem persists we may issue a fine.



BE A BRIGHT BURNER

Did you take last month's Burn Bright quiz? Are you a Bright Burner or a Damp Squib? If you came out as a damp squib then here are some things you can do to make sure your fire burns bright and warm for the winter ahead.

- Buy your wood early from a good wood supplier.
- Store it under cover in a woodshed with good ventilation.
- Use plenty of dry kindling.
- Operate the wood burner with the air control fully open.
- Vary the room temperature by adding more wood or letting the fire die back.
- Never fill the firebox more than half full.
- Check your chimney 15 minutes after putting on more wood – if it's still smoking you may need to review your wood burning practices for a more efficient fire.

If you want to have another go at the quiz, go to nelson.govt.nz/bright-burner. You can also have a look at the video 'Burn Smoke Free' at nelson.govt.nz/burn-smoke-free to get more ideas on the best way to master your machine and have a warm dry home over winter.



nelson.govt.nz/bright-burner

nelson.govt.nz/burn-smoke-free

5 EASY STEPS TO A SMOKE FREE WOODBURNER

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Stack dry wood under shelter with plenty of good ventilation
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Have your flue professionally cleaned and your woodburner checked
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Use lots of newspaper and dry kindling to light the fire
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Let the fire get going well before you add more wood
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Check for smoke after 15 minutes to make sure you are burning right