



## OUTDOOR FIREPLACES & OVENS

# INSTALLATION & OPERATION GUIDE

### THE KING OF HEARTH'S *ADVANTAGE*

Add warmth and elegance to any outdoor space with a unique King of Hearths outdoor fireplace. No other outdoor fireplace matches the easy set up and quality construction.

- ✓ Simple, easy-to-handle, 2- or 3-piece mortarless assembly
- ✓ Engineered with high-strength reinforced lightweight concrete, to stand the test of time and the rigors of New England's climate
- ✓ Fire brick pre-installed, saving valuable time and money at the job site
- ✓ No frost footings required in colder climates

### ITEMS TO CONSIDER BEFORE INSTALLATION

The King of Hearths fireplaces are meant to enhance outdoor living. They should not be used indoors or inside a roofed area or building. When placing the units, careful consideration must be given to clearances of combustible materials. A spark arrestor with a chimney cap is required and the stack of the fireplace is equipped to accept a 13"x 13" size. Combustible materials should not be within 8 feet of the cap. The front of the fireplace opening requires a minimum of a 4 foot area from combustible materials. This includes items such as wood decking, furniture and the like. Look for items such as power lines and trees to insure you have safe clearance. Of course, always check local building and fire codes for further restrictions.

### PAD REQUIREMENTS

The King of Heart units must be placed on an adequate pad to support the structure and provide stability. The firebox and chimney pieces are stacked one on top of the other. They do not require mortar nor is it necessary to pour a pad the depth required for traditional frost foundations. The pad – typically 6" thick - can be placed on excavated soil that is firm and stable. Loam, roots and plant matter must be removed. If the soil is clay, additional excavation may be needed and the clay replaced with gravel material. Compact or hand tamp the soil until it is level and firmly packed.

Minimum pad dimensions are:

- **King Arthur:** 50 inches wide by 40 inches deep
- **Guinevere:** 42 inches wide by 32 inches deep

The pad should be poured a minimum depth of 6". To prevent the pad from splitting, a grid of #4 (½" dia.) steel rebar must be installed 12" on center mid-point of the slab's thickness. If using a side box it will be necessary to enlarge the width of the pad by 24". Pads should cure for 3 days before placing the fireplace.



## FIREPLACE PLACEMENT

Once the pad or hearth installation has completely cured, the fireplace is ready for placement. The fireplace is shipped on a sturdy wood pallet. The pallet provides proper weight distribution of the firebox when transporting. Remove and set aside the stack(s) from the firebox but leave the firebox on the pallet until it is ready to be placed on the slab or hearth. Two fork pockets molded into the firebox facilitate placement when lifting it off of the pallet and onto the slab or hearth. Use caution when moving and lifting any of the components to prevent damage and personal injury. When placing the firebox on the slab or hearth, center or position accordingly, if using a side box, to assure equal weight distribution. Place the stack piece by centering it on the top of the firebox and install the spark arrestor/chimney cap. It is not necessary to mortar the stack. Properly faced, the veneer will lock in and seal the stack. Note that the King Arthur has a 2 piece stack to accommodate the larger firebox.

## BURNING THE FIREPLACE

Before veneering the units, build a few small fires to “season” the concrete. All materials, including concrete, react to heat. This “pre-burn” tempers the unit and helps bring the materials to a near final rest before the facing is applied. Be sure to install the spark arrestor/ chimney cap prior to lighting a fire.

Because the firebox in King of Hearths Fireplaces is lined with firebrick, you can burn directly on the bottom of the hearth or, if you choose, on a cast iron log grate. *Your fireplace is meant to burn wood.* Burning garbage, wood treated with preservatives or other materials can create temperatures much hotter than wood. While concrete does not burn, it can crack when exposed to extremely hot temperatures of intense fires. Use cardboard or kindling to start fires. Never use accelerants such as gasoline or combustible fuel.

## FINISHING THE FIREPLACE

King of Hearths Fireplaces can be finished with natural stone veneer, clay brick, or manufactured concrete units such as our Olde Boston WallStone. The semi rough surface applied when the units are made will insure that a good bond is achieved between the precast unit and the finish material chosen. Isolate the bottom of the veneer from the concrete pad using a ¼” expansion type material. This will allow the veneer to move independently from the hearth or slab as expansion and contraction occurs with changes in temperature.

In the event you choose to install side boxes with your fireplace, you will notice that the height is slightly higher than the flat part of the firebox. This is done intentionally to create a pitch to prevent water and or ice pooling where the 2 precast units join. It is not necessary to anchor the side box to the firebox. The weight of the side box is sufficient provided the surface is stable.

## FIRE SAFETY

Tend your fires at all times and keep children, family members and guests a safe distance. Have a fire extinguisher or garden hose close by if needed and never leave the fire unattended. Be sure it is completely extinguished before leaving the area. Protect your investment and use common sense and fire safety!

**NOTE: Stress cracks in fireplaces and ovens are micro fractures that are a normal occurrence and do not affect the structural integrity of the unit, nor are grounds for rejection.**

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