

THE STOVE ROOM

exceptional wood burning stoves & accessories

STOVE SIZE GUIDE

Below you will find a useful guide explaining:

Understanding KW outputs on stoves

The heat output of a stove is measured in kilowatts. The higher the kilowatt (kW) output the greater the heat the stoves will generate. It's not true to think that the larger the stove the greater the heat output as a small stove burning coal may well have a greater output than a larger stove burning wood. A smaller stove may be a much more efficient stove generating a larger amount of heat than a larger less efficient stove. So when choosing your stove it's best to consider the heat output you require rather than the size of the stove. The heat output of a stove can range from 3kW to 10kW and greater. Below we have explained what heat output you will require to heat your room.

How to calculate the heat output you will require from your stove to heat your room

When choosing a stove one of the most important things to consider is the heat output that you'll require. If you choose a stove that doesn't have sufficient heat output to heat the room then you won't achieve the warm cosy feeling that you'd hope to and your room may well be a little chilly on cold nights. If you choose a stove that produces far too much heat than is required to heat the room then you might find yourself uncomfortably hot and over time forsake lighting the stove as you find the room gets too warm and is unpleasant to sit in when the stove is burning. Both of these scenarios defeat the purpose of buying and fitting a stove so it is important to work out the correct heat output for your room.

To calculate the correct heat output for your room follow the equation below:

Room Width x Room Depth x Height = Y

Divide the answer (Y) of the above calculation by one of the following numbers:

12 (for a poorly insulated room)

15 (for an averaged insulated room)

18 (for a well-insulated room)

So if you had a room which was insulated reasonably well and measuring 8 meters x 7 meters x 2.3 meters, then the calculation and the correct size stove would be as follows:

$8 \times 7 \times 2.3 = 128.80$ cubic meters

$128.80 / 15 = 8.5\text{KW's}$

So, for a room this size you would want to look at stoves between 8 - 9KW's.

What size stove will fit into your opening?

Although it's important that you choose a stove that has the correct heat output to heat your room it's also important to make sure that the stove will fit into the opening you have or space you want to fit it into. This is an important matter to take into consideration as some stoves have minimum clearances to combustible materials and there's no point putting a stove into an opening just a few millimetres larger than the stove as it will reduce its efficiency and the amount of heat the stove puts out into the room as the stove won't be able to effectively convect heat into the room.

So as a rule of thumb if you are putting a stove in an inglenook and the manufactures installation instructions don't give a minimum clearance for non-combustible materials it is good practice to allow the following distances between the stove and the walls/lintel:

Distance at the back of the stove 50mm - 75mm (as a minimum)

Distance at the sides of the stove 100mm - 125mm (as a minimum)

Top of the stove 100mm - 150mm (as a minimum)

These are just guide lines, so please feel free to call us to discuss any queries you may have in more detail.
