

INSTALLATION

The most important consideration in installing your stove is adequate clearance between the stove and any combustible surface. A stove placed too close to a wall or furniture can cause a fire. One set clearance standard follows the suggestion of the Nation Fire Protection Association. The NFPA publishes a bulletin (NFPA No. HS-8) called "Using Coal and Wood stoves Safely". This calls for a thirty-six inch clearance between any combustible surface to the front, back or sides. It calls for eighteen inches between the stove and the floor. The table (from NFPA HS-8) shows variations from this in the case of cooking stoves. A variety of pads may be used under the stove. Perhaps the most common is a metal covered asbestos stove board available in hardware stores. A sheet of asbestos may also be used, or a layer of brick or tile set in place by a mason. We've used a metal tray two inches deep filled with gravel and water. The stove sits on brick in the tray; the water evaporates, putting moisture into the air as does the kettle on the top of the stove. The NFPA recommends that the pad under the stove extend eighteen inches beyond the ash removal door at the front or side of the stove.