

The BBQ Grill Outlet

QUALITY GRILLS, ISLANDS & MORE

Gas Log Purchasing Guide

Purchasing the correct set of logs will result in making your fireplace look better, your home warmer and the environment a little cleaner. To get the correct log set for your fireplace we advise that you consider the following:

- Purchase the best logs – stained (not painted), steel reinforced, high refractory ceramic (not concrete) and a lifetime warranty
- Determine the correct size – approximately 8” to 12” less wide than the width of your fireplace (some exceptions apply)
- Pair the logs with the correct burner pan kit (everything else you’ll need to complete the installation)
- Install them correctly for maximum ambience, heat transference and safety

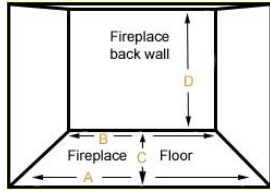
Let’s take those four topics and explain them a little further.



Best Logs

Gas log sets are made with a variety of materials but if you want them to warm the room, you’ll want logs that are made with a high refractory ceramic material. That material is excellent for heat transference. At home my wife and I often have to open a window because they do such a good job of heating our family room even in the winter.

Logs that are stained will hold their coloring much longer than logs that are painted. A stain actually embeds itself into the material, where paint remains on the surface. Logs that are reinforced with steel rods will not break apart. Make sure the logs come with a lifetime warranty. You’ll never need to replace them again.



Correct Size

In order to determine what size logs best fit your fireplace, 4 measurements are helpful.

1. Measure the width of the fireplace at the front opening "A"
2. Measure the width at the back of the fireplace "B"
3. Measure the depth of the fireplace (front to back) "C"
4. Measure the height of the fireplace opening "D"

The log set should be a minimum 6" shorter than the opening width, preferably 8" to 10" shorter and ideally not more than 12" shorter. For example if the opening width is 34" (and assuming the fire box does not taper too much) you could use a 27" set but a 24" log set is better since it would be the optimum 8" to 10" differential.

In some cases a smaller set would have to be used if the depth is short, 14" for example and the taper is exaggerated making the back width only 18" wide. In this case a 20" set may be necessary in order to fit the back of the fireplace. To make things simple, bring the 4 measurements to us and we will assist you in finding the perfect size log set for your fireplace.

Check to see if the gas supply comes up through the floor of the firebox. If so, make a note of where it comes up (how far from the front or back and how far from the side, left or right). If the gas supply comes from the side, you don't have to worry about the location.



Burner Pan Kits

The burner pan kit is everything else you'll need to complete the look. It includes the pan that disperses the gas, sand to cover the pan and "wick" the gas around, glowing embers to cover the sand, the grate to hold the logs, a connector hose to connect to the gas line and a damper clamp.

For gas logs there are single level kits (used most often) and multi-level kits which are more expensive and used when the fireplace opening is particularly tall. The single level kits have either a single pipe to disperse the gas and are less expensive. There is also a single level kit with multiple pipes to disperse the gas. While a little more expensive the multiple pipe kit produces a larger burn area and noticeably better ember glow.

Safely Installed

In order to safely install a gas log set, here are few simple steps that should be observed.

1. If the fireplace has been used to burn wood, you may need to have the chimney swept before the logs are installed to remove any creosote buildup in the chimney flue.
2. To make the installation more dramatic the masonry inside the firebox can be painted black with specialty paint to best “show off” the new gas logs with the maximum affect.
3. Be sure the fireplace is vented. Meaning there is a flue that vents the heat to the outside through a chimney. Non-vented fireplaces require a specialty log set.
4. All pipe thread connections should be sealed with yellow Teflon tape or pipe dope to keep the connections from leaking.
5. All flare fittings should not be sealed with yellow Teflon tape or pipe dope.
6. The damper clamp must be installed on the damper (the movable stop at the top of the fire box where the flue starts). The damper clamp prevents the damper from fully closing. If the damper is fully closed when burning gas logs it’s possible for carbon monoxide to build up in the room which in the most extreme case can be deadly.

Gas logs are beautiful and practical addition to any home. Between the log set and a burner pan kit you should expect to pay between \$279 and \$459 for the average fireplace. We offer installation services and have many of the log sets on display. Click the link for store locations and store hours:

<http://www.bbqgrillsandislands.com/locations.html>