Hot Art

MAKERS OF CERAMIC FIREPLACES

Consumables Required for Installation:

Roof sealant – we recommend Buccaneer Raincoat Storm Seal
Sponge
Acetone/windowlene
Cloths
Paintbrush
Ice-cream tub
Water
Self tapping screws or spring toggles
S/S pop rivets
4,2mm drill bits

Installation Guide – READ INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEOFRE INSTALLATION

A Hot Art fireplace is easily installed by a builder, handyman or DIY savvy purchaser, provided that these instructions and diagrams are followed meticulously. Some of the aspects may seem untoward, but the steps must be closely followed! We have a system that works for our pots, and so for the benefit of the pot and to get the best use of your fireplace, these instructions are key and must be followed! If you take as much care with the installation as we did with making the pot, it will serve you well.

PLEASE NOTE:

Like any fireplace, the Hot Art fire pot is a potential fire hazard if not installed correctly, compliant with Part V of the National Building Regulations (SABS 0400). The chimney should pass no closer than 200mm to any combustible material without adequate insulation. The fire pot itself should be closer than 300mm on either side to combustible materials and 500mm in the front.

Hot Art herewith specifically excludes responsibility for damages arising from whatsoever cause concerning the installation and use of Hot Art Fireplaces.

Take care of the lid during installation – it is most vulnerable prior to installation. It could get chipped if the edge is bumped carelessly against the pot.

Take great care insulating the ceiling, roof timbers and any surface that might touch the pipes – they get very hot!

The kind of wood you burn in your fireplace will determine many things, including heat output and the need for a fire screen. Certain woods burn quietly while other woods spit and crackle. Use invader species of wood, such as Black Wattle and Blue Gum. Ensure the wood is nice and dry.

Installation Site

The fire pot must be freestanding, although it may be positioned within an existing fireplace, if it is high and wide enough to accommodate at least one length of flue (500mm) or an elbow. The existing masonry chimney should be blocked off with a heat resistant board to prevent heat loss and ensure adequate heating of the room, as well as proper draw.

A base of durable material is essential for the pot, unless it is placed on tiles. If the pot is going to be placed on wood or laminate then it needs a base. A plinth looks best at a height of about 300mm above floor level and the plinth should extend at least 1000mm in the front, and 200mm on either side or a 1400mm radius for a round plinth. Your plinth can be made from bricks, cement, fireproof glass or tiles. A glass mosaic plinth looks beautiful, or a marble/granite slab, however this will require a stand. The fire pot should be positioned about 1000mm from the nearest furniture. Choices of locally-made wrought-iron stands are available to elevate your pot. A fire screen is also recommended to catch sparks, but it is not necessary. A sacrificial rug, animal skin or woollen carpet can also be placed in front of the mouth (about 500mm away) to catch any flying sparks.

Why Pipe-within-a-pipe?

Allowance must be made for the expansion of the metal flue. The 125mm stainless steel pipe must float inside the 150mm pipe, so that it can expand up and down, and outwards when hot, retracting when cool. If the 125mm flue is fixed to the roof it will lift the ceiling/roof when hot and break the seals or worse the lid! Stainless steel expands at 1cm per metre with heat, and retracts when cooled.

Installation of Your Pot

Please ensure your plinth/base is built, in position and dry before installing your pot.

1. Remove the white plastic covering from the pipes. Push the metal pipes together firmly on the ground. Make sure the pipes are joined the right way – for the 125mm pipes: narrow crimped end at the bottom; for the 150mm sleeves: narrow, crimped end at the top. The pipe with a damper in it should be the first pipe out of the pot. If you don't have a damper flue, then the pipe with a bump should be first out of the lid. The 125mm pipes must go inside the 150 pipes, and must not be sealed anywhere. The 125mm flue pipe must allow for heat expansion, as stainless steel expands 1cm per metre when heated. The flue pipe must go out of the lid, up through the escutcheon plate, through the ceiling and out through the roof seal. The 125mm flue is the chimney from the pot through the ceiling through the roof, and must extend a minimum of 300mm above the roof. The 150mm sleeve goes from the ceiling through the roof and into the turbo cowl, to extend +- 1000mm. It does not need to clear the pitch of the roof.
2. Slide the escutcheon plate up the 125mm pipe and screw it into the ceiling, with stainless steel screws. The 150mm sleeve will rest on this plate.
3. Push the wider, smooth end of the 125mm pipe through the hole in the escutcheon plate and the ceiling and slide it into the 150mm sleeve, which is seated on the roof and hangs down ending in line with the bottom of the ceiling. Wrap the fibre frax around the 150mm pipe at this point to insulate your ceiling boards against the heat of the pipe. Tuck the fibre underneath the 150mm sleeve between that and the 125mm pipe. Further fibre frax should be used around the 150mm sleeve before it exits the roof or you could burn the roof seal.
4. Place the fire pot in position.
5. Align the 3 dots on the lid with the 3 dots on the pot. Pull the lid slightly forward so that the lip of the lid slightly overhangs the dots on the pot.
6. In your installation pack there is a ring and tadpole string. Push the ring onto the crimped end of the starter pipe, push it up to the bump on the pipe. The ring stops the pipe from falling through the pot along with the silica string which cushions the ring on the lid, and allows for lateral expansion of the pipe. The fat part of the string rests on the lid, and the flat piece of the string goes inside the lid. (Please see diagram)
7. Reach inside the pot, through the mouth and sponge the lid join with a wet sponge. Mix the sairset cement, supplied in your installation pack, with a little water into a thick paste. Make a little sausage the thickness of your pinky, and smear it into the join. Wipe off the excess to leave a smooth finish. **Do not use the cement on the outside of the pot.** Mix half of the mix for sealing, and keep the other half for touch ups if needed.
8. Place the vermiculite inside the pot. Do not ever remove the vermiculite; it creates a lightweight, insulation for the fire to draw through. If you don't have vermiculite in your pot, it will smoke. The vermiculite should sit at 20mm below the level of the lip.
9. Clean the pipes with windowlene or acetone before lighting the fire, otherwise the finger prints will become permanent. The pipes will turn change colour with the first fire, from stainless steel to copper, to dark blue, dependent on the size and heat of your fires.
10. Make a big roaring fire, making sure not to throw the wood into the pot. Please see the section "How to Make a Proper Fire in a Hot Art Pot". Enjoy!

DO NOT:

- use sairset cement on the outside of the pot
- join the pipes the wrong way around
- forget to remove the plastic from the pipes before joining them
- use non-approved pipe
- force the pipe into the lid hole – it should slide in freely
- force the metal ring and string into the lid hole, it will crack your lid
- clean the vermiculite out

DO NOT:

- narrow the flue at all!!
- use the sairset cement to seal the pipe to the lid
- seal/inhibit movement of the flue pipe – it must be able to expand and contract with heat (1cm per metre)
- should your pot crack, do not attempt to fill it or repair it. This will make it worse. Please call us if you have questions
- DO NOT throw wood into the pot! Place the wood in gently - treat it like a teapot and not a kettle

Roof Sealing

The roof hole should be as tight as possible around the 150mm sleeve. Secure the 150mm sleeve to the roof by inserting self-tapping screws horizontally into the pipe to support the weight. The 150mm sleeve can be sealed against rain and damp with roof sealant - we recommend Raincoat Storm Seal – it must be heat resistant, flexible and waterproof, to allow for the movement of the pipe. A variety of flashing products is painted over that which will keep out the rain.

The Cowl Height Requirements

We have two options on cowls – the recommended Turbo Cowl and a Storm Cowl. The Turbo Cowl has been designed to withstand the windy conditions of the Western Cape. If you do have blowback, turn the cowl 90°. If you have abnormally high winds, like Port Elizabeth, we recommend the Storm Cowl, which is round. The Cowl must be riveted in place.

The 150mm pipe must extend minimum 1000mm above the roof hole. The Cowl does not need to clear the pitch of the roof.

The Flue

The chimney flue works best when it exits straight up out of the pot. If you are unable to go straight up, a 45° elbow can be used. You can angle straight out of the pot, the draw will be sufficient!

Mark off the spot on the ceiling that is precisely above the fire pot lid hole. Drill small holes all around the 150mm circumference with a 5mm drill bit until you can clear the hole. You can also drill an 8mm hole and use a jigsaw. Ensure there is no joint, power wire or plumbing in the way. The hole must be cut at least 15mm away from the 150mm sleeve to leave space for the insulation material. **Remember** the flue must float in the 150mm sleeve, and must rest gently on the ring and string in the lid of the pot.

Insulation

The ceiling must be cut back at least 15mm from the 150mm sleeve, to allow space for the fibre frax (insulation material) to be inserted. THE CEILING IS A CRITICAL AREA FOR INSULATION. Use one piece of fibre frax around the 150mm sleeve, and tuck the end under the sleeve where it will touch the escutcheon plate. The hole and insulation material is then covered by the escutcheon plate. The plate is screwed into the ceiling with stainless steel self tapping screws.

The second piece of fibre frax is placed around the sleeve, where it goes through the roof. Thoroughly insulate wherever the pipes are within proximity to combustible material. Any wooden beams or rafters that are within 200mm of the 150mm sleeve, must be insulated. Extra insulation material can be provided if needed.

How To Make A Proper Fire In A Hot Art Pot

The object of the ceramics is to absorb as much heat as soon as possible, through a large fire (if you start off with a small fire, all the heat goes straight up the chimney and does not give the pot a chance to get hot). The way to do this is to stack the pot as full as you can, whilst it is cold, reason being that it is easier to stack the pot full without throwing the logs in when it is hot. Throwing logs into the pot, will eventually cause the pot's integrity to weaken.

Starting with paper, kindling, small wood, medium wood and then as large as will fit into the pot (just like you make a braai to achieve coals). If you use firelighters, place them under the wood after the pot has been fully stacked - otherwise the vapours can ignite much like a gas leak, and blow back. Light the paper or firelighters, to immediately assist the draw, take a quarter page of newspaper (A3 size), and place over the mouth of the fireplace, leaving a gap at the bottom. After smoothing the paper down on the upper lip, the fire will automatically suck the paper against the pot, creating a reverse bellows effect. Paper can be removed when the fire is crackling. When coals are considerably reduced, new logs can be gently added. (Caution! Do not throw the logs against the ceramic, our fireplaces are not metal – treat your fireplace like a teapot and not a kettle). Use the newspaper over the mouth again, and the logs will inflame in a matter of minutes.

Sit back and enjoy the radiant heat!

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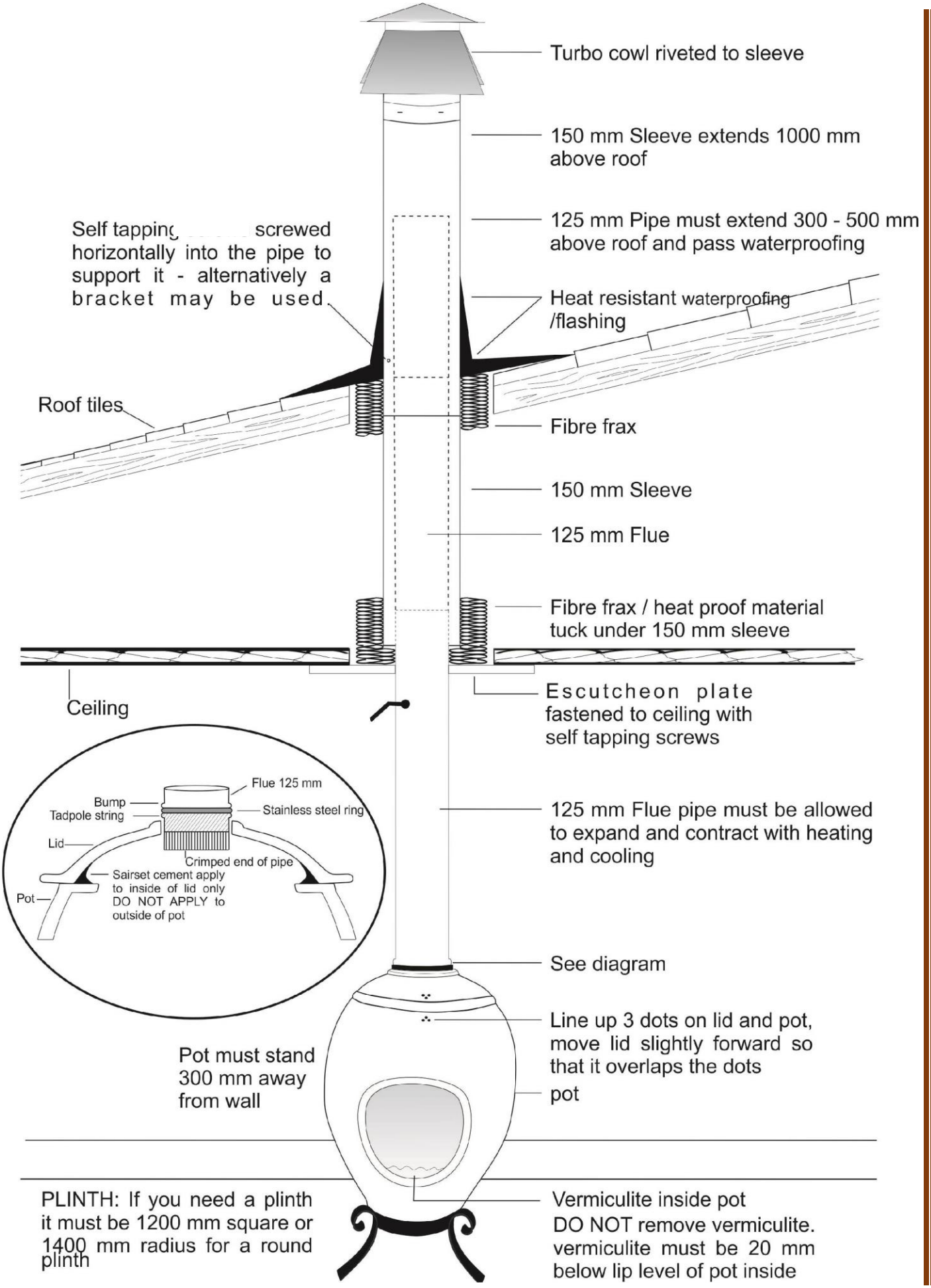
Please don't hesitate to call if you have any questions. We are here to help you have an amazing experience with your new pot. We welcome photos of cozy lounges with our pots burning away.



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