

# FLAMING BEAR MINI CATALYTIC AND SOAPSTONE WOOD STOVE



## OPERATION & INSTRUCTION MANUAL



### Manufactured By:

ECHOLS STOVE WORKS, LLC. HC35 Box 185, Kenilworth UT 84529  
Ph: 435-472-4205 <https://dragitanywhere.com/mini-catalytic-wood-stove/>

CHECK LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN YOUR AREA WITH JURISDICTION ABOUT PERMITS REQUIRED, RESTRICTIONS AND INSTALLATION INSPECTIONS FOR YOUR AREA BEFORE INSTALLING.

#### California Prop 65

 **WARNING:** This product can expose you to chemicals including glass wool fiber and carbon monoxide which are known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects or other reproductive harm. For more information go to [www.P65Warnings.ca.gov](http://www.P65Warnings.ca.gov)

# WARNINGS

## WARNING

- **THIS APPLIANCE IS HOT WHEN OPERATED AND CAN CAUSE SEVERE BURNS IF CONTACTED. ANY CHANGES OR ALTERATIONS TO THIS APPLIANCE OR ITS CONTROLS CAN BE DANGEROUS AND IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS.**
- Do not operate appliance before reading and understanding operating instructions. Failure to operate appliance according to operating instructions could cause fire or injury.
- Before installing this appliance, contact the local building or fire authority and follow their guidelines.
- This appliance must be installed by a qualified installer.
- Risk of burns. The appliance should be turned off and cooled before servicing.
- Do not operate without fully assembling all components.
- Do not let the appliance become hot enough for any part to glow red.
- Do not install damaged, incomplete or substitute components.
- Risk of cuts and abrasions. Wear protective gloves and safety glasses during installation. Sheet metal edges may be sharp.
- Children and adults should be alerted to the hazards of high surface temperature and should stay away to avoid burns or clothing ignition.
- Young children should be carefully supervised when they are in the same room as the appliance. Toddlers, young children and others may be susceptible to accidental contact burns. A physical barrier is recommended if there are at risk individuals in the house. To restrict access to an appliance or appliance, install an adjustable safety gate to keep toddlers, young children and other at risk individuals out of the room and away from hot surfaces.
- Clothing or other flammable material should not be placed on or near the appliance. Objects placed in front of the appliance must be kept a minimum of 48" away from the front face of the appliance.
- Due to high temperatures, the appliance should be located out of traffic and away from furniture and draperies.
- Ensure you have incorporated adequate safety measure to protect infants / toddlers from touching hot surfaces.
- Even after the appliance is out, all surfaces, including the glass and/or any attachment will remain hot for an extended period of time.
- Check with your local hearth specialty dealer for safety hearth guards to protect children from hot surfaces. These guards must be fastened to a wall and/or to the floor.
- Any safety guard removed for servicing must be replaced prior to operating the appliance.
- Under no circumstances should this appliance be modified.
- This appliance must not be connected to a chimney flue pipe servicing a separate solid fuel burning appliance.
- Do not operate the appliance with the glass door removed, cracked or broken. Replacement of the glass should be done by a licensed or qualified service person.
- Do not strike or slam shut the appliance glass door.
- Operate only with the doors tightly closed.
- Appliance will over-fire if door is not shut and latched.
- Only certified doors / optional fronts / and surrounds for inserts with the unit are to be installed on the appliance.
- Keep the packaging material out of reach of children and dispose of the material in a safe manner. As with all plastic bags, these are not toys and should be kept away from children and infants.
- If the appliance is not properly installed, a house fire may result. Do not expose the appliance to the elements (rain, etc.) and keep the appliance dry at all times.
- The chimney must be sound and free of cracks and obstructions. Clean your chimney regularly as required.
- Never use gasoline, gasoline-type lantern fuel, kerosene, charcoal lighter fluid, or similar liquids to start or 'freshen up' a fire in this heater. Keep all such liquids well away from the heater while it is in use.
- Your appliance requires periodic maintenance and cleaning. Failure to maintain your appliance may lead to smoke spillage in your home.
- Higher efficiencies and lower emissions will generally result when burning air dried seasoned woods, as compared to wet, green or freshly cut wood. Burning wet unseasoned wood can cause excessive creosote accumulation. When ignited it can cause a chimney fire that may result in a serious house fire.
- The appliance is designed to burn seasoned wood only. Do not burn treated wood, coal, charcoal, colored paper, cardboard, solvents or garbage.
- Burn wood directly on the firebricks. Do not use a grate or elevate the fire.
- Do not store wood within appliance installation clearances or within the space required for re-fueling and ash removal.
- Ashes must be disposed in a metal container with a tight lid and placed on a non-combustible surface well away from the home or structure until completely cool.



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# WARNINGS

## WARNING

IF THIS APPLIANCE IS NOT PROPERLY INSTALLED OR OPERATED, A HOUSE FIRE MAY RESULT LEADING TO SERIOUS BODILY HARM AND EVEN DEATH. TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE, PLEASE READ THIS ENTIRE MANUAL BEFORE INSTALLING AND OPERATING THIS APPLIANCE. CONTACT LOCAL BUILDING OR FIRE OFFICIALS ABOUT RESTRICTIONS AND INSTALLATION INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS IN YOUR AREA.

DO NOT OPERATE THIS APPLIANCE WITHOUT FULLY ASSEMBLING ALL COMPONENTS. DO NOT INSTALL DAMAGED, INCOMPLETE, OR SUBSTITUTE COMPONENTS. FAILURE TO POSITION COMPONENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DIAGRAMS IN THIS BOOKLET, OR FAILURE TO USE COMPONENTS SPECIFICALLY APPROVED WITH THIS APPLIANCE, MAY RESULT IN PROPERTY DAMAGE OR PERSONAL INJURY.

### SMOKE DETECTORS, CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS, AND FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO HAVE AT LEAST ONE SMOKE DETECTOR AND ONE CARBON MONOXIDE MONITOR IN THE ROOM CONTAINING THE APPLIANCE. IT IS RECOMMENDED TO HAVE SEVERAL SMOKE DETECTORS AND CARBON MONOXIDE MONITORS POSITIONED IN KEY AREAS THROUGHOUT YOUR HOME. IF AN ALARM SOUNDS, EVACUATE THE HOME IMMEDIATELY. AFTER YOU HAVE DETERMINED THAT THERE IS NO RISK TO HEALTH OR PROPERTY, YOU MAY CORRECT THE CAUSE OF THE ALARM. DO NOT DE-ACTIVATE OR RELOCATE THE SMOKE DETECTORS OR CARBON MONOXIDE MONITORS. ALL HOMES WITH A SOLID FUEL BURNING APPLIANCE SHOULD HAVE AT LEAST ONE FIRE EXTINGUISHER IN A CENTRAL LOCATION THAT IS KNOWN TO ALL OCCUPANTS IN THE HOUSE.



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### *MINIMUM CLEARANCES*

This appliance must be installed in compliance with all local codes and regulations. Minimum clearances may only be reduced by means approved by the regulatory authority. Flue pipe must be 6" diameter and 24 MSG steel construction. Do not use aluminum or galvanized steel. Refer to local codes and pipe manufacturer specs for required minimum clearances. **\*In Canada, a minimum 18" (450 mm) clearance from single wall pipe is required.**

### *FLOOR PROTECTION*

This appliance does not require thermal hearth pad floor protection; however, if installed on a combustible floor, a non-combustible floor shield must be used. In the USA, this floor shield must extend 16" out from the front and 8" out from either side of the fuel-loading door. In Canada, to comply with CSA B365, any combustible covering beneath the appliance and/or within the area extending horizontally at least 18" (450 mm) beyond the appliance on any side equipped with a door, and at least 8" (200 mm) beyond the appliance on other sides, shall be protected by a continuous, durable, non-combustible pad that will provide ember protection.

# CHIMNEY CONNECTIONS

## VENTING SYSTEM

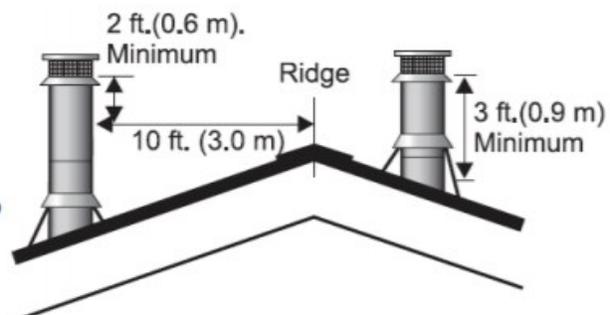
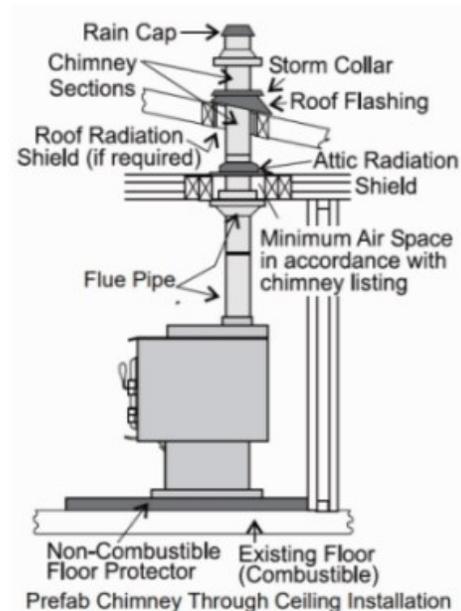
A venting system consists of:

- Appliance Connector - a “stove top adaptor” that creates a positive connection between the appliance and flue pipe.
- Flue Pipe - either single or double wall pipe that is only used within the room, connecting the appliance to either a ceiling box or wall pass through.
- Chimney - a listed, factory built component with either 1” or 2” insulation that is suitable for use with solid fuels, conforming to CAN/ULC-S629 in Canada or UL 103HT in the USA. Note: This appliance may also be connected to a code compliant Masonry Chimney.

Do not install the chimney directly at the outlet of the appliance. A chimney connector is required unless the appliance is specifically approved for that type of installation. The flue pipe between the appliance connector and chimney should be kept as direct as possible. Do not

use a flue pipe to pass through an attic or roof space, closet or similar concealed space, or a floor or ceiling. All joints within the venting system must be securely fastened with sheet metal screws. A chimney support package must be used when a connection is made through a ceiling to a listed prefabricated chimney. A listed wall thimble must be used when a connection is made through a combustible wall to a chimney. These accessories are necessary to provide safe clearances to combustible walls and ceilings as these components can get extremely hot during use. In the event of a creosote fire, temperatures inside the chimney may exceed 2000F (1100°C). An effective vapor barrier must be maintained at the location where the chimney or vent component penetrates the exterior structure. Do not connect this appliance to a chimney serving another appliance, doing so will affect the safe operation of both appliances and will void warranty. You must comply with the local authority having jurisdiction and, in Canada, CSA installation standard B365-M87.

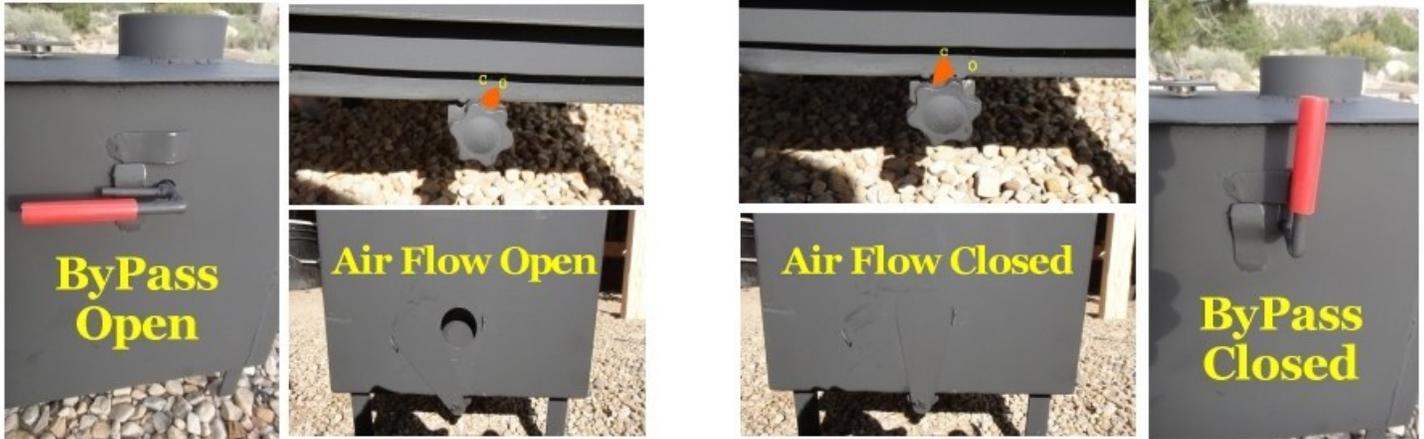
The chimney must meet a minimum height above the roof and/or other obstruction(s) for safety purposes and to ensure sufficient draft. It is required that the chimney be at least 3ft higher than the highest point where it passes through the roof and at least 2ft higher than the highest part of the roof or any obstruction within 10ft (measured horizontally) of the chimney. Refer to the “**RECOMMENDED CHIMNEY HEIGHTS**” chart for minimum flue height recommendations and CAN/ULC-S629 in Canada or UL-103HT in the USA for installation codes.



# OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

## *BYPASS DOOR*

Your catalytic wood burning appliance is fitted with a bypass door which allows exhaust from the fire to temporarily bypass the catalytic combustor. The bypass door is located inside the dome of the firebox at the top of the appliance. It is a hinged, steel plate door and is controlled by the bypass handle located on the right side of the appliance. When the handle is pointing forward, the bypass door is open. To close the bypass door you must rotate the handle clockwise until it points to the top of the appliance. To ensure the bypass door is fully closed, push down on the bypass handle until you hear a positive click.



## *CATALYTIC THERMOMETER*

The catalytic thermometer is located on the top of the appliance. Its sole purpose is measure the exhaust gasses after they have passed through the combustor to indicate whether the combustor is ACTIVE or INACTIVE. It is important to ensure that the appliance is operated in the ACTIVE zone. When the thermometer reads INACTIVE it means that the combustor temperature is below 600F and is not producing a clean burn.



## *THERMOSTAT*

The thermostat is located at the FRONT of the appliance and is controlled by the thermostat knob which is located at the FRONT of the appliance. See upper right Photo When the knob is positioned at the HIGH setting, the appliance will operate at its highest burn rate and deliver its maximum heat output. As the knob is rotated counter clockwise the burn rate will decrease along with heat output. Burn rate is greatly influenced by location, installation, and external environment, so you may find it necessary to reposition the knob until you find the ideal setting to suit your situation. Please note that all adjustments to the thermostat should be done gradually as too rapid a change may cause the thermostat to operate improperly. The thermostat has a manufacturer-set minimum low burn rate that must not be altered. It is against federal regulations to alter this setting or otherwise operate this wood heater in a manner inconsistent with operating instructions in this manual.

# WOOD RELOADING INSTRUCTIONS

## RELOADING PROCEDURE

**WHEN PREPARING TO RELOAD, IF THE NEEDLE ON THE CATALYTIC THERMOMETER IS STILL IN THE ACTIVE ZONE, FOLLOW THE PROCEDURE BELOW; IF THE NEEDLE HAS DROPPED INTO THE INACTIVE ZONE, REFER BACK TO THE "LIGHTING THE FIRE" PROCEDURE ON THE PREVIOUS PAGE.**

It is important to note that the catalytic thermometer is simply displaying the temperature of the catalytic combustor. It may be used as an aid when it comes to identifying a reload point, but other factors such as lack of fuel in the firebox or dropping room temperatures should be used as well.



1. Have your next load of wood ready before beginning. Turn the thermostat to **HIGH** to ensure the remaining coal bed is active before reloading. Wait a few minutes for the air flow to stabilize.
2. To help minimize smoke spillage into the room, open the bypass door and again wait a few minutes for the air flow to stabilize.
3. Open the bypass door and crack open the loading door to allow ambient room air to be introduced into the firebox, this may take a minute to stabilize.
4. Slowly open the loading door and proceed to reload the firebox. If you experience excessive smoke spillage, slightly close the loading door to re-establish a draft through the chimney.
5. Once loaded, latch the loading door shut and (if opened) close the bypass door immediately. Let the fire burn on the **HIGH** thermostat setting until the fire is well established. At that point, turn the thermostat down to the desired setting. Keep in mind, you may not see a large amount of flame activity in the lower thermostat setting. The thermometer needle will remain in the active zone indicating that the burn cycle is continuing.
6. Should you burn the stove on a very low setting for extended periods of time, you will begin to see creosote deposits forming on the glass door. To remove these deposits, simply run the stove on **HIGH** for approximately 30 minutes. The **HIGH** setting will burn off most of the deposits.

## CATALYTIC THERMOMETER

The combustor thermometer tells you what was happening 4-8 minutes ago, and remember, it is only an indication of the temperatures of the gasses after they pass through the combustor. The thermometer probe, the part that fits into the stove, must be cleaned at least once a year. Lift it from the stove (be careful, it may be hot) and wipe or scrape it clean. At room temperature, away from the stove, the indicator should point near the bottom of the "Inactive" zone. If, after several years use, you find that the needle no longer points to the bottom of the "Inactive" zone when the thermometer has been at room temperature for 10 minutes or longer, it may need adjustment. Holding the probe with a pair of pliers, loosen the bolt on the top of the dial. Turn the dial to align the pointer with the bottom of the "Inactive" zone, then retighten the bolt.

**Note: Our loading instructions are outlined in general terms due to the variables that arise with each installation. Such variables include type of wood fuel, chimney height and configuration, installation altitude, seasonal weather conditions, draft, and the desired heat output required. Over time you will learn which settings are necessary to achieve optimal performance with your specific installation.**

# CATALYTIC COMBUSTOR

## WARNING

**DO NOT OPERATE THIS APPLIANCE WITHOUT THE CATALYTIC COMBUSTOR INSTALLED. DOING SO WILL LEAD TO EXCESSIVE SMOKE AND TEMPERATURES THAT COULD RESULT IN A HOUSE FIRE CAUSING SERIOUS BODILY HARM. ONLY BURN SEASONED WOOD. FAILURE TO DO SO MAY DAMAGE THE COMBUSTOR AND WILL VOID ALL WARRANTIES.**

### *COMBUSTOR MONITORING*

It is good practice to monitor the catalytic combustor to ensure it is functioning properly. An improperly functioning combustor will result in a loss of heating efficiency and an increase in emissions and creosote buildup. The following list of items should be checked on a periodic basis:

- Combustors should be visually inspected at least three times during the heating season to determine if physical degradation has occurred. Actual removal of the combustor is not recommended unless more detailed inspection is warranted because of decreased performance. Please refer to the “*COMBUSTOR TROUBLESHOOTING*” section.
- This appliance is equipped with a catalytic thermometer to monitor combustor operation. A properly functioning combustor will maintain temperatures in excess of **600 F** (indicated by the thermometer needle in the ACTIVE zone) and often reach temperatures in excess of 1000 F. If the combustor temperature falls below **600 F** thermometer needle in the INACTIVE zone:
- A good way to determine whether the combustor is functioning properly is by comparing the amount of smoke exiting the chimney while the combustor is engaged (bypass door closed) versus when the combustor is bypassed (bypass door open).

**Note:** Open the bypass door, wait a few minutes and observe the smoke exiting the chimney, then close the bypass door again. Significantly more smoke may be seen when the exhaust is not routed through the combustor (bypass mode). Smoke may be visible shortly after lighting the fire and shortly after reloading the fire so allow the fire to stabilize before making observations.

### *COMBUSTOR TESTING*

Follow these instructions to test the catalytic combustor:

1. Light a fire per the “*LIGHTING THE FIRE*” instructions.
2. After burning a well established fire for **1/2** hour, position the thermostat knob to a medium-low burn rate setting.
3. After 5 minutes at the lower burn rate, observe the location of the thermometer needle. A properly functioning combustor will have a temperature greater than **700F** with the thermometer needle in the ACTIVE zone. An improperly functioning combustor will yield thermometer reading in the INACTIVE zone.
4. Repeat step 3 for at least 3 burn cycles.
5. If the thermometer needed is still not reaching the ACTIVE zone, your combustor may require cleaning.
6. If, after cleaning the combustor and reburning, the thermometer needle is still not reaching the ACTIVE zone, your combustor may need replacing. Contact your *Flaming Bear* dealer for a replacement combustor.

**Note** - It is also possible that the catalytic thermometer itself may not be functioning properly. Before deeming the combustor “dysfunctional”, please refer to the “*CATALYTIC THERMOMETER*” section.

## CATALYTIC COMBUSTOR MAINTENANCE

### ⚠️ WARNING

DO NOT PERFORM ANY CLEANING UNTIL THE FIRE IS OUT AND THE APPLIANCE IS COOL. HOT ASH IN A VACUUM CLEANER BAG COULD MELT THE VACUUM AND COULD RESULT IN A HOUSE FIRE CAUSING SERIOUS BODILY HARM.

#### COMBUSTOR CLEANING

Under certain conditions, ash particles may become attached to the face of the combustor. These particles may be seen while the combustor is glowing under fire or when the fire is out. Any deposits on the face of the combustor should be removed. There are two ways to clean the face of the combustor: (1) Brushing the combustor with a soft bristle paint brush, or (2) Passing a vacuum cleaner wand or brush near the face of the combustor. Limit cleaning to the face of the combustor (note - the flame shield will have to be removed to gain access to the face). Do not scrape the combustor with any hard tool or brush and do not run pipe cleaner through the individual cells of the combustor as this may do more harm than good. Do not remove the combustor during this process. **Note - simply burning a hot fire usually proves to be the best method of cleaning the combustor of deposits.**

#### COMBUSTOR REPLACEMENT

If the catalytic combustor has been deemed "dysfunctional" per the guidelines in "*COMBUSTOR TESTING*", discontinue use of the appliance until the combustor is replaced. Follow the steps below to complete the replacement



1. The appliance must be cool to touch, having gone at least 12 hours without being burned. A combustor can reach 1400F and hold temperatures for several hours, even after the fire is out. After waiting 12 hours, begin by removing the flame shield by simply lifting the shield off the two tabs at either lower corner. Pay particular attention to orientation of the flame shield in order to reinstall in the correct position.

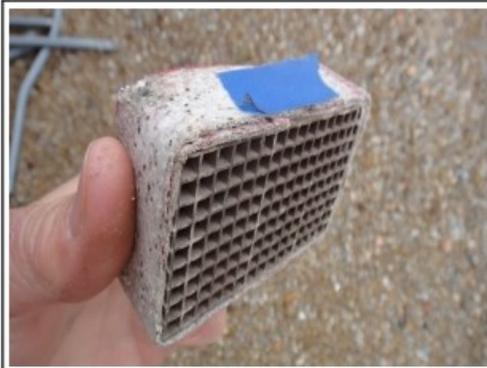


2. Once the flame shield is removed, you will have access to the combustor. The combustor can be made of different materials such as cordierite, mulite, or stainless steel. They are all the same with regard to removal and caution should be taken so as to not drop or damage the combustor. If your combustor has never been cleaned according the manufacturers directions, you may wish to clean the combustor before replacing it with a new combustor (please refer to the "*COMBUSTOR CLEANING*" section).

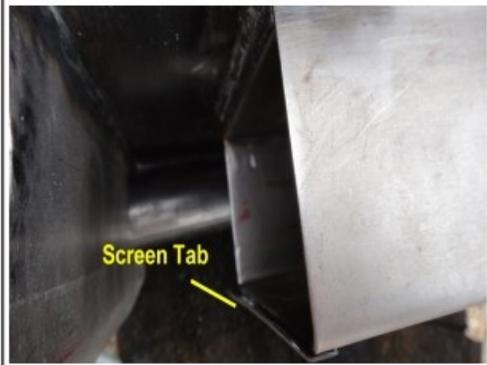
## COMBUSTOR REPLACEMENT



**3.** Now that the combustor has been removed use the screwdriver or pocket knife, scrape any old gasket from the surface areas of the dome. The dome is the housing that surrounds the combustor. If you clean your existing combustor, you'll need to order replacement combustor gasket. It is always a good idea to have a spare combustor gasket on hand prior to performing any maintenance. If you purchase a new combustor a new gasket will already be applied to the combustor.



**4.** This new combustor already has the gasket installed. Note the 1" wide masking tape. This tape will help to keep the leading edge of the gasket from snagging during installation. If you've cleaned your combustor, wrap the combustor gasket as you see here and use the 1" masking tape around the perimeter front and rear. During the first fire the masking tape will burn off and the combustor gasket will swell providing a tight seal. It is this tight seal that improves efficiency and performance. You should never burn your stove without a combustor gasket installed.



**5.** Since the combustor is only 1" deep, there is ample room to lift the new combustor into place. **REMEMBER TO HAVE THE TAB ACROSS THE BOTTOM EDGE OF THE COMBUSTOR AS IT IS INSTALLED.** Slowly push the combustor in at the top apply even pressure to the left and right corners. This will allow for a better view of the bottom edge for the final fitting. **DO NOT FORCE THE COMBUSTOR INTO THE DOME. TAKE YOUR TIME AND WORK IT INTO PLACE SLOWLY.**

## CATALYST REPLACEMENT



**6.** Once the combustor is installed completely so that all three tabs are touching the face of the dome, replace the flame shield. Note the brackets welded to the back flame shield are shaped like a triangle. The point of the triangle should face down when installed correctly. Never operate your stove without the flame shield in place. The flame shield will protect the face of the combustor against damages from wood when loading and other possible damages that can occur during the cleaning process.



**7.** The flame shield will rest on the two tabs located on the dome guard and lean slightly forward. Now that your combustor has been installed you can relight your stove. You will continue to receive excellent efficiency and clean burning for years to come. A few reminders, never burn anything other than dry, seasoned cordwood. Burning anything else may contaminate or ruin your new combustor. Also remember to keep your front loading door gasket seal properly adjusted, see "LOADING DOOR TENSION ADJUSTMENT". Doing so will improve burn times and extend combustor life span.

**For replacement Combustors and parts contact us at:  
Echols Stove Works, LLC.**

**435-472-4205**

**HC35 Box 185**

**Kenilworth UT 84529**

**<https://dragitanywhere.com/mini-catalytic-wood-stove/>**

# CATALYST TROUBLESHOOTING

## CATALYTIC COMBUSTOR, TROUBLESHOOTING

### PROBLEM - CREOSOTE PLUGGING

**Possible Cause:** Burning materials that produce a lot of char and fly-ash.

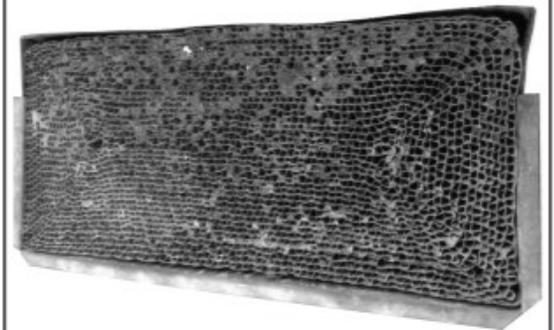
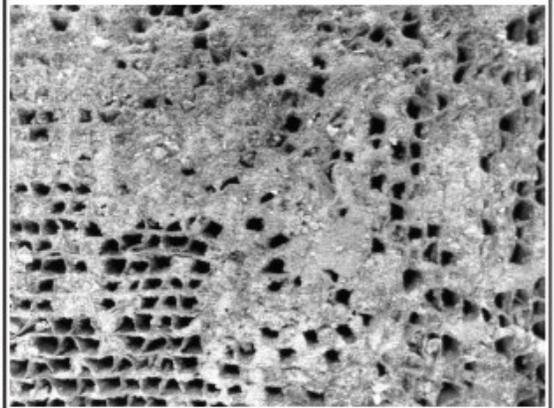
**Solution:** Do not burn materials such as garbage, gift wrap, or cardboard.

**Possible Cause:** Burning wet, pitchy woods or burning large loads of small diameter wood with the combustor in the operating position without the thermostat needle in the active zone.

**Solution:** Burn dry, seasoned wood, don't engage the bypass until the temperatures are high enough to initiate light-off (indicated by the thermostat needle in the active zone).

**Possible Cause:** Combustor not functioning. If proper burning procedures have been followed to no avail, the combustor is not functioning.

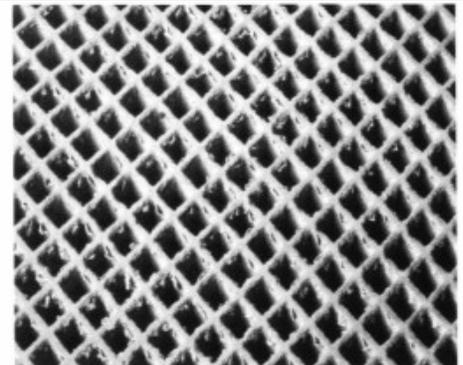
**Solution:** Replace the combustor with a genuine Blaze King combustor (failure to do so will void your warranty).



### PROBLEM - CATALYST PEELING

**Possible Cause:** Extreme temperatures (above 1800°F, or 1000°C.) at combustor surface can cause the catalysts to peel. Over firing and flame impingement on the combustor are primary causes. Minor peeling photo shows minor peeling that is normal and does not affect function. Severe peeling photo shows that are closed or plugged.

**Solution:** Avoid extreme temperatures and flame impingement. If peeling is severe, remove and replace combustor.

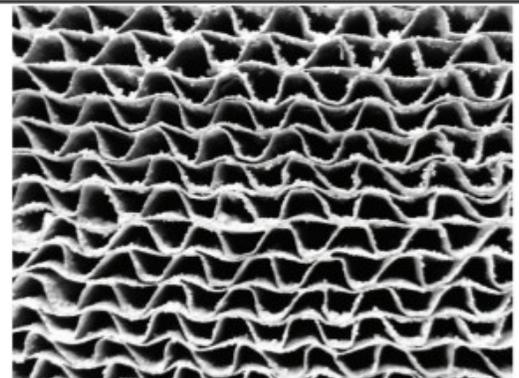


Minor Peeling

### PROBLEM - CATALYST DEACTIVATION

**Possible Cause:** Burning large quantities of trash, pressure-treated lumber, or painted woods.

**Solution:** Burn quality woods available in your area. If you decide the catalyst has been deactivated, replace combustor with a genuine Blaze King combustor (failure to do so will void your warranty).



Severe Peeling

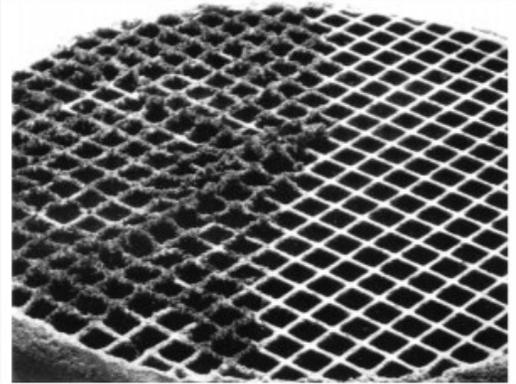
## CATALYST TROUBLESHOOTING

### PROBLEM - CATALYST MASKING

(The catalyst is coated with a layer of fly-ash or soot which prevents catalytic activity)

**Possible Cause:** Accumulation of fly-ash

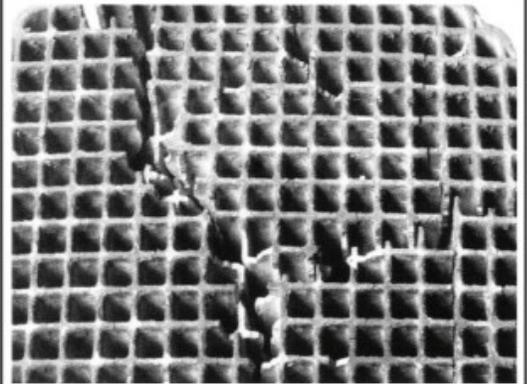
**Solution:** Brush cooled combustor with a soft-bristled brush or vacuum lightly at least once per burning season.



### PROBLEM - THERMAL CRACKING

**Possible Cause:** Normal operation, as long as the combustor remains intact.

**Solution:** If cracking causes large pieces to fall out, replace the combustor.



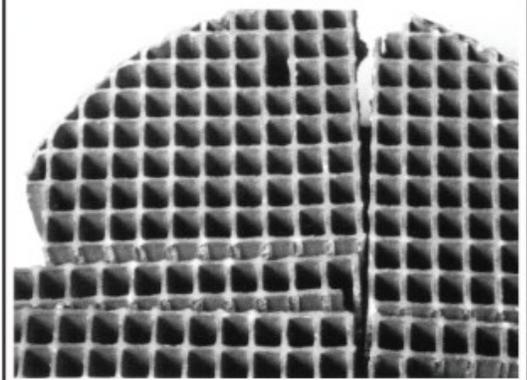
### PROBLEM - MECHANICAL CRACKING

**Possible Cause:** Mishandling, abuse, or operating without a properly gasket sealed combustor.

**Solution:** Handle with care

**Possible Cause:** Distortion of holding collar.

**Solution:** Combustor should be held firmly in its can. It should slide easily into and out of the holding collar of the stove. If severe cracking has resulted in loss of large chunks of combustor, replace combustor. Also replace any warped stove parts.



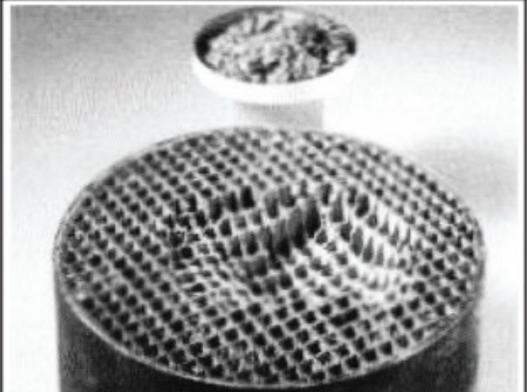
### PROBLEM - CRUMBLING

**Possible Cause:** Air leaks

**Solution:** Inspect door gasket.

**Possible Cause:** High draft

**Solution:** Maintain draft to manufactured specifications.



# WOOD RELOADING INSTRUCTIONS

## RELOADING PROCEDURE

**WHEN PREPARING TO RELOAD, IF THE NEEDLE ON THE CATALYTIC THERMOMETER IS STILL IN THE ACTIVE ZONE, FOLLOW THE PROCEDURE BELOW; IF THE NEEDLE HAS DROPPED INTO THE INACTIVE ZONE, REFER BACK TO THE "LIGHTING THE FIRE" PROCEDURE ON THE PREVIOUS PAGE.**

It is important to note that the catalytic thermometer is simply displaying the temperature of the catalytic combustor. It may be used as an aid when it comes to identifying a reload point, but other factors such as lack of fuel in the firebox or dropping room temperatures should be used as well.



1. Have your next load of wood ready before beginning. Turn the thermostat to **HIGH** to ensure the remaining coal bed is active before reloading. Wait a few minutes for the air flow to stabilize.
2. To help minimize smoke spillage into the room, open the bypass door and again wait a few minutes for the air flow to stabilize.
3. Open the bypass door and crack open the loading door to allow ambient room air to be introduced into the firebox, this may take a minute to stabilize.
4. Slowly open the loading door and proceed to reload the firebox. If you experience excessive smoke spillage, slightly close the loading door to re-establish a draft through the chimney.
5. Once loaded, latch the loading door shut and (if opened) close the bypass door immediately. Let the fire burn on the **HIGH** thermostat setting until the fire is well established. At that point, turn the thermostat down to the desired setting. Keep in mind, you may not see a large amount of flame activity in the lower thermostat setting. The thermometer needle will remain in the active zone indicating that the burn cycle is continuing.
6. Should you burn the stove on a very low setting for extended periods of time, you will begin to see creosote deposits forming on the glass door. To remove these deposits, simply run the stove on **HIGH** for approximately 30 minutes. The **HIGH** setting will burn off most of the deposits.

## CATALYTIC THERMOMETER

The combustor thermometer tells you what was happening 4-8 minutes ago, and remember, it is only an indication of the temperatures of the gasses after they pass through the combustor. The thermometer probe, the part that fits into the stove, must be cleaned at least once a year. Lift it from the stove (be careful, it may be hot) and wipe or scrape it clean. At room temperature, away from the stove, the indicator should point near the bottom of the "Inactive" zone. If, after several years use, you find that the needle no longer points to the bottom of the "Inactive" zone when the thermometer has been at room temperature for 10 minutes or longer, it may need adjustment. Holding the probe with a pair of pliers, loosen the bolt on the top of the dial. Turn the dial to align the pointer with the bottom of the "Inactive" zone, then retighten the bolt.

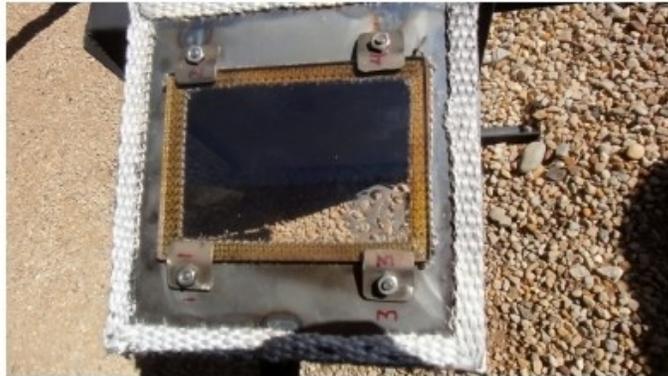
**Note:** Our loading instructions are outlined in general terms due to the variables that arise with each installation. Such variables include type of wood fuel, chimney height and configuration, installation altitude, seasonal weather conditions, draft, and the desired heat output required. Over time you will learn which settings are necessary to achieve optimal performance with your specific installation.

# DOOR GLASS MAINTENANCE

## *DOOR GLASS GASKET INSPECTION*

When the appliance is cold, hold the glass by placing the palm of each hand on either side of the glass. Press firmly and try to move the glass. If the glass moves the door glass retainers may need to be tightened or the door glass gasket may need to be replaced.

1. Inspect the door glass gasket. If the gasket is frayed or missing sections replace the gasket.
2. Inspect the glass retainers and ensure the screws holding the retainers in place are tight. Hand tighten plus 1/4 turn. Do not over tighten.



## *DOOR GLASS, CLEANING*

The best way to keep the glass clean is to leave the appliance on high burn for a period of time after each reloading. The moisture which is driven from a new load of wood contributes much of the creosote on the inside of the glass. Removing that moisture at the beginning of the burn cycle helps to keep the glass clean. Leaving the thermostat on a higher setting for 30 minutes to an hour before turning to low for an overnight burn will also help. Heavier deposits may require hand cleaning. Manual glass cleaning should be done when the appliance and glass are cool. **DO NOT CLEAN THE GLASS WHILE IT IS HOT. WARNING: Do not use abrasive cleaners to clean the glass.** Use a soft cloth. After using any cleaner, thoroughly rinse the glass with water to remove any deposits left by the cleaner. Failure to remove all traces of glass cleaner will result in the glass cleaner residue baking on. This residue may be very difficult to remove.

## **⚠️ WARNING**

**REFRAIN FROM STRIKING THE GLASS OR SLAMMING THE DOOR SHUT. DO NOT OPERATE THIS APPLIANCE IF THE DOOR GLASS OR GASKET SEAL IS BROKEN. DOING SO MAY LEAD TO A RUN AWAY FIRE WHICH COULD RESULT IN PROPERTY DAMAGE.**

# MAINTENANCE

## *RUN-AWAY OR CHIMNEY FIRE*

### **WARNING**

**A CHIMNEY FIRE CAN PERMANENTLY DAMAGE YOUR CHIMNEY SYSTEM. THIS DAMAGE CAN ONLY BE REPAIRED BY REPLACING THE DAMAGED COMPONENT PARTS. CHIMNEY FIRE DAMAGE IS NOT COVERED BY THE LIMITED WARRANTY.**

#### **CAUSES:**

1. Using incorrect fuel, or small fuel pieces which would normally be used as kindling.
2. Leaving the door ajar too long and creating extreme temperatures as the air rushes in the open door.
3. Improperly installed or worn gaskets.
4. Creosote build up in the chimney.

#### **SOLUTIONS:**

1. Do not burn treated or processed wood, coal, charcoal, colored paper or cardboard.
2. Be careful not to over fire the appliance by leaving the door open too long after the initial start-up.
3. Replace worn, dried out (inflexible) gaskets.
4. Have your chimney cleaned regularly.

#### **WHAT TO DO IF A RUN-AWAY OR CHIMNEY FIRE STARTS:**

1. Close the draft fully (lowest position) by shutting off thermostat, and make sure firebox is closed tightly.
2. Call the local fire department.
3. Examine the chimney, attic and roof of the house, to see if any part has become hot enough to catch fire. If necessary spray with a fire extinguisher or water from a garden hose.
4. Do not operate the appliance again until you are certain the chimney has not been damaged.

#### ***CREOSOTE FORMATION AND REMOVAL***

When wood is burned slowly, it produces tar and other organic vapors which combine with expelled moisture to form creosote. These vapors condense in the relatively cooler chimney flue of a slow burning fire and when ignited, make an extremely hot fire. Check your chimney for creosote and soot regularly, until a safe frequency for cleaning is established. The chimney connector and chimney should be inspected regularly during the heating season to determine if a creosote build up has occurred. Be aware that the hotter the fire, the less creosote is deposited.

If accumulation is excessive, clean the chimney. You may want to call a professional chimney sweep to clean it. Both the chimney and the appliance have to be cleaned at least once a year or as often as necessary. Have a clearly understood plan to handle a chimney fire.

# MAINTENANCE

## *CHIMNEY MAINTENANCE*

The most efficient method to sweep the chimney is using a hard brush. Brush downwards so soot and creosote residues will come off the inner surface and fall to the bottom of the chimney where they can be removed easily.

The chimney must be checked regularly and if creosote has accumulated, it must be removed without delay. Cleaning on a regular basis should be sufficient during the coldest months. **ENSURE THE BYPASS DOOR IS OPEN PRIOR TO CLEANING THE CHIMNEY SO THE SOOT AND CREOSOTE FALLS INTO THE FIREBOX.**

Chimney / Flue Inspection:

1. The chimney should be inspected regularly during the heating season.
2. If possible, the chimney should be dismantled and cleaned.
3. The chimney should be inspected for possible damage.
4. If it is in good condition, put the chimney back in place; otherwise, it must be replaced.

## *FIRE EXTINGUISHERS AND SMOKE DETECTORS*

All homes with a solid fuel burning appliance should have at least one fire extinguisher in a central location, known to all, and at least one smoke detector in the room containing the appliance. If it sounds an alarm, correct the cause but do not de-activate or relocate the smoke detector.

## *ASH REMOVAL*

This appliance is required to be cleaned frequently because soot, creosote and ash may accumulate. Wait until the appliance is fully cooled off before the removal of ashes. **ALWAYS REMOVE THE ASH BUCKET IMMEDIATELY AFTER FILLING.** Ashes should be removed any time they come within one inch of the door opening. It is not necessary or advisable to completely remove all of the ashes when cleaning this appliance. Wood burns best in a bed of ashes 1/2" thick. Ashes should be placed in a metal container with a tight fitting lid. The closed container of ashes should be placed on a noncombustible floor or on the ground (outside), well away from all combustible materials, pending final disposal. If the ashes are disposed of by burial in soil or otherwise locally dispersed, they should be retained in the closed container until all cinders have thoroughly cooled. Other waste shall not be placed in this container.

## **WARNING**

**NEVER STORE HOT ASHES IN A GARAGE OR BASEMENT. HOT ASHES WILL GENERATE CARBON MONOXIDE AND / OR FLAMMABLE GASES. THESE GASES MAY CAUSE SUFFOCATION AND POSSIBLE DEATH.**

# TROUBLESHOOTING

The **Flaming Bear** is designed to allow a wide selection of heat output levels. If you begin to lose control of the amount of heat the stove is emitting, determine the cause early so that major problems may be avoided.

The six major needs of a well-controlled fire are:

1. Knowledgeable operator.
2. Adequate air supply.
3. Firewood of good quality and proper size.
4. Catalytic combustor in good condition.
5. Clean chimney, properly sized and installed.
6. Door gasket tight and firm.

Considering all of the above, number one is the most important for safe and efficient operation of any woodstove. Please study the operation instructions carefully.

All of the six above mentioned needs are interrelated. A deficiency in any one will affect all of the others. If you encounter a problem, determine the source of the problem and then follow-up by checking the other needs as possible contributing factors.

<b>PROBLEM: Chimney Fire</b>	
<b>CAUSE</b> Act immediately regardless of cause	<b>SOLUTION</b> Turn the thermostat to lowest setting, check loading door to be sure it is tightly closed. <b>Call Fire Department.</b>
After the fire is out, have your chimney and flue connector inspected by a certified chimney sweep. A damaged masonry chimney should be repaired or rebuilt. A prefabricated chimney (factory built) that is damaged should be replaced. Any damage to the flue connector should be corrected before the system is used again.	
Possible causes of a chimney fire, and remedies for those causes, can be found further in this section: "Excessive Creosote Formation", and "Spots of Creosote Accumulation in Chimney or Flue Connector".	

<b>PROBLEM: Not enough heat.</b>	
<b>CAUSE</b> Green or wet wood. Not enough fuel in stove.	<b>SOLUTION</b> Use seasoned wood. Don't be afraid to FULLY load the stove. A FULL load of wood won't burn any hotter than the thermostat is set.
Obstruction in chimney or cap screen. Combustor plugged or coated.	Remove obstruction. See "COMBUSTOR, TESTING" See "COMBUSTOR, CLEANING"
Combustor not functioning.	See "COMBUSTOR, TESTING". If needed, replace combustor, See "COMBUSTOR, REPLACING".
Thermostat set too low.	Raise thermostat setting.
Thermostat not operating properly.	Consult your dealer.
Poor draft caused by an oversize flue	Measure draft with Manometer.
Strong, gusting winds causing downdraft in chimney	Install wind-resistant chimney cap. Directional caps may not stay freely rotating. If you have a directional cap, check it frequently.
Tightly sealed house, inadequate air supply.	Slightly open a window, near the stove or install an outside air kit.
Reloading too much wood on top of too few coals.	Allow a larger bed of coals to build up.

# TROUBLESHOOTING

<b>PROBLEM: Too much heat.</b>	
<b>CAUSE</b>	<b>SOLUTION</b>
By-Pass door left open.	Close the by-pass door.
Thermostat set too high.	Lower thermostat setting.
Loading door gasket leaking, admitting excess air into firebox.	Replace door gasket and/or adjust door. See "GASKET INSPECTION"
Excessive draft in the chimney.	Measure draft with a Manometer. Install a cap.
Thermostat not operating properly.	Consult your dealer.
Wood is too small.	Use larger pieces.

<b>PROBLEM: Excessive creosote formation in chimney and chimney Connector.</b>	
<b>CAUSE</b>	<b>SOLUTION</b>
By-pass door left open.	Close by-pass door.
By-pass door not sealing tightly.	Inspect by-pass door and seal for warping. Ash or creosote buildup may occur on door or seat. With stove cold scrape and vacuum area around by-pass. Be sure all mating steel surfaces are clean and smooth.
Improper operation.	Check thermostat setting and operating procedures. See "THERMOSTAT & OPTIMAL THERMOSTAT SETTING"
Wood too green or wet.	Use seasoned wood. Use a moisture meter to confirm.
Catalytic combustor not operating properly.	Inspect the combustor. See "CATALYTIC COMBUSTOR, TESTING"
Poor draft caused by an oversize or short flue, etc.	Measure draft with Manometer. See "DRAFTS".
Chimney too cold or poorly insulated.	Upgrade chimney system.

<b>PROBLEM: Catalytic combustor thermometer (on top of stove) does not go into "Active" zone, or does not stay there for long. (Fans must be in "off" position for 10 minutes prior to checking)</b>	
<b>CAUSE</b>	<b>SOLUTION</b>
Improper operation.	Check thermostat setting and operating procedures. See "THERMOSTAT & OPTIMAL THERMOSTAT SETTING"
Obstruction in chimney or cap.	Clean chimney, remove obstructions.
Faulty combustor thermometer.	Replace thermometer and Recheck combustor operating Temperature.
Wood too green or wet.	Use seasoned wood.

## ⚠ WARNING

THIS APPLIANCE IS HOT WHILE IN OPERATION. CHILDREN AND PETS MUST BE KEPT FROM TOUCHING THE APPLIANCE WHEN IN USE. COMBUSTIBLE OBJECTS MUST BE KEPT A MINIMUM OF 48"(1219 MM) FROM THE FRONT OF THE APPLIANCE. COMBUSTIBLE MATERIAL SUCH AS CLOTHING OR FURNITURE PLACED TOO CLOSE TO THE APPLIANCE CAN CATCH FIRE. DO NOT STORE WOOD WITHIN THE SPECIFIED SAFETY CLEARANCES OR WITHIN THE SPACE REQUIRED FOR RE-FUELING AND ASH REMOVAL. FAILURE TO COMPLY MAY CAUSE SKIN BURNS OR RESULT IN A HOUSE FIRE CAUSING SERIOUS BODILY HARM.

## Manufactured By:

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