EN

MAX BLANK

HIGH QUALITY

Installation and Operating Instructions

www.maxblank.com

Preface

We are very pleased that you have chosen our product, and we sincerely thank you for the trust you have placed in us!

With your new stove from Max Blank Manufactory, you have selected a high-quality product designed for durability, functionality, and meticulous craftsmanship. Each model is manufactured with great precision and complies with the current standards
DIN EN 16510-1:2023 and **DIN EN 16510-2-1:2023**.

The special wood combustion system of your stove ensures efficient, environmentally friendly and safe heating – provided it is installed professionally and used properly. It combines sophisticated technology with appealing design.

This manual is intended to help you become familiar with the functions and safe operation of your stove. Please read it carefully, follow all safety instructions and keep this document for future reference.

Installation must be carried out by a qualified specialist company. Only proper assembly ensures that the stove operates reliably and safely. In the event of improper installation, warranty coverage may be void.

We wish you many pleasant moments of soothing warmth and long-lasting enjoyment with your new stove.

Your Max Blank Stove Manufactory

Please note:
This Installation and Operating Manual, together with the supplementary Technical Manual, forms the basis for the safe commissioning and proper operation of your stove.

All relevant manuals and documents are also available on our website in the service section, which can be accessed via the QR code.

Legal framework:
In addition to the applicable European and national standards, country-specific regulations (e.g. state building codes, fire safety regulations) as well as local requirements must be observed.

Technical modifications reserved.
No liability is accepted for printing errors or subsequent changes.

Contents:

1. Introduction

Important information regarding the installation and operation of your stove

The installation and use of a stove are subject to certain legal requirements. This manual provides you with all essential information in a clear and understandable way.

As the purchaser and operator, you are legally obliged under the Equipment and Product Safety Act to inform yourself about the safe and proper use of your stove. This manual is designed to assist you.

Please note that, in addition to general regulations, regional and local requirements must also be observed. For this reason, it is important to consult a qualified specialist before installation – in most cases, this will be your responsible chimney sweep. The chimney sweep not only checks the prerequisites for connection but also informs you about possible regional restrictions, such as combustion bans in certain areas.

> **Important to know:**
> Not every stove is suitable for every chimney. Before installation, your chimney sweep must verify that the draught and flue characteristics of the existing chimney meet the technical requirements of the stove. Otherwise, problems may occur – for example, excessive sooting of the glass pane or incomplete combustion.

The chimney sweep also inspects whether the structural conditions for installation are met – such as the size of the installation room in relation to the stove's heating capacity. Adequate combustion air supply is also essential, especially in modern or well-insulated houses with ventilation systems. This is the only way to ensure safe and trouble-free operation.

If several stoves or fireplaces are operated simultaneously on the same chimney (multiple occupancy), sufficient air supply and extraction are particularly important to avoid health risks and functional problems.

Please note:
The building regulations must be strictly observed when connecting and commissioning the stove. Therefore, installation and approval may only be carried out by a qualified specialist company.

2. Intended Use

Your stove is a room-heating appliance for solid fuels without hot water generation and has been designed for intermittent operation.

It complies with the standards DIN EN 16510-1:2022 and DIN EN 16510-2-1:2022 and has been tested according to Type BE / Type CA (in accordance with DIN EN 16510-1:2022, Section 4).

The stove is primarily intended to temporarily replace central heating during transitional periods or to support it during the colder months.
It is not designed as a permanent replacement for a central heating system.

Please note:
Any use beyond the intended purpose or not described in this manual is considered improper use. In such cases, the manufacturer assumes no liability.

For requirements within the framework of market surveillance (according to DIN EN 16510-1, Annex H), the following additional test criteria apply:

- Criterion for the end of a test cycle: Weighing criterion: Residual embers: 100 g

3. Installing the Stove

3.1 Delivery

Your Max Blank stove has been carefully packaged and delivered safely.
For logistical reasons, the fireproof inner linings (firebricks) are packed separately – they are either placed inside the firebox or attached to the outside of the packaging unit.

Please inspect the stove immediately upon delivery for completeness, visible damage, or possible transport damage.

If any external damage is visible, contact your dealer immediately and note the damage directly on the delivery receipt.

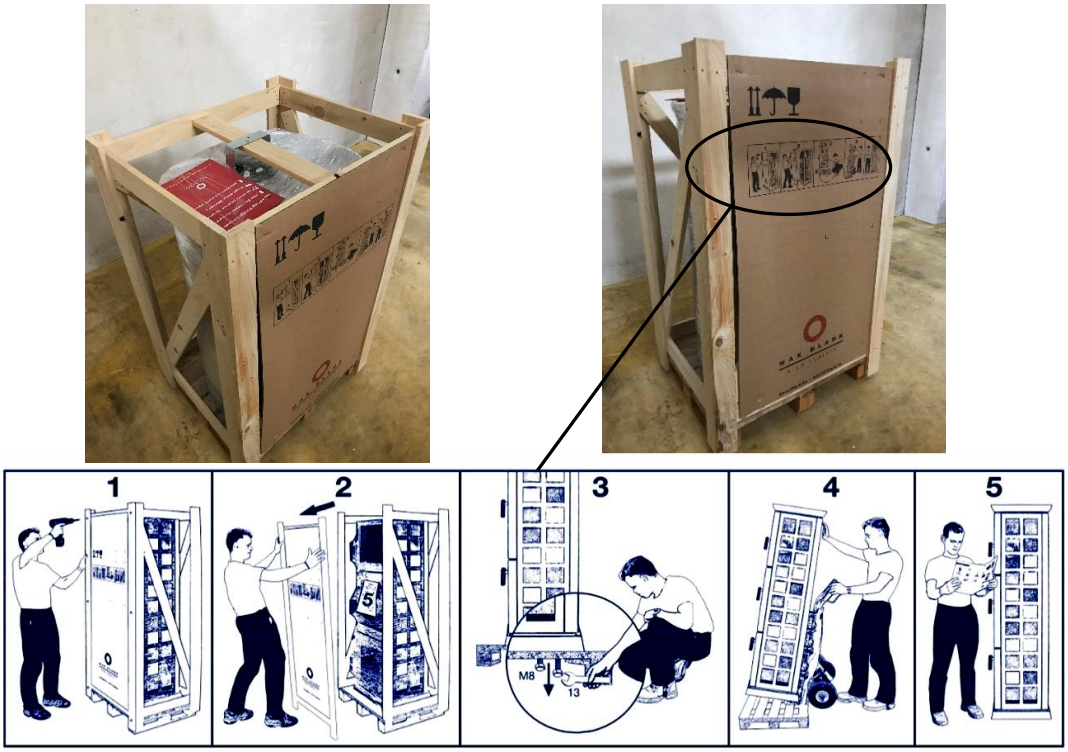
Note: Claims for visible transport damage submitted at a later date cannot be considered.

3.2 Unpacking

All packaging materials, such as cardboard and plastic, are fully recyclable. The included wooden parts are untreated.

Please follow the instructions on the transport frame before unpacking.
Open the packaging carefully to avoid damage to the appliance.

For example, do not use a sharp knife with the blade fully extended, as this may cause scratches on the surface.



3.3 Inspection

Please inspect the unpacked stove immediately and carefully for completeness. Pay special attention to loose accessories, such as covers, screws, baffle plates, the fire grate, and other components included in the delivery.

Also check the stove for possible transport damage.

Note:
Refuse delivery of obviously damaged goods. Any defects or hidden damage must be reported to your responsible dealer immediately upon discovery.

4. Requirements for the Installation Location

Fire protection, operating permit, and combustion air supply
Before your stove can be put into operation, it is mandatory in Germany to inform the responsible district chimney sweep.
The chimney sweep will inspect the correct installation and subsequently issue the official operating permit. Operation of the stove without this inspection is not permitted!

Please also comply with all applicable local regulations, building codes, and safety standards relevant to the installation and operation of your stove.

Safety for room-air-dependent appliances
Room-sealed stoves draw their combustion air from the installation room.
If another appliance, that extracts air from the room, is operated simultaneously – for example, a kitchen extractor hood or a clothes dryer – dangerous backflow of flue gases can occur.

There is a risk of suffocation due to flue gases entering the living area!

To ensure safe operation, the following conditions must be met:

- The installation room has an openable window or an exterior door.
- The room volume is at least 4.0 m³ per kW nominal heat output of the stove.
- A window contact switch for air-extracting devices (e.g., kitchen extractor hood) is mandatory.

Special requirements for modern, air-tight buildings
In new buildings or renovated houses with airtight building envelopes (airtight windows, doors, or controlled ventilation), natural air supply may be limited. This can lead to operational issues with the stove.

If the stove is operated simultaneously with an exhaust device (e.g., extractor hood, vented dryer, or bathroom fan), the chimney draft may be disrupted – flue gases could enter the living area.

There is a risk to life due to insufficient combustion and flue gas leakage!

In such cases, additional combustion air supply is required – for example, via an external air duct or a ventilation system with pressure equalization.

Consult your qualified installer or chimney sweep for advice.

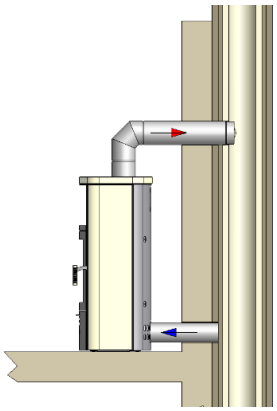
Recommendations for small rooms or very air-tight buildings
In small installation rooms or in modern, airtight buildings, the stove's draft may be impaired. To ensure clean combustion and safe operation, additional air supply should be provided. Effective solutions include:

- Installing an air flap near the stove,
- Connecting a combustion air duct to the outside,
- Using an external air connection (if technically possible).

Important: All ventilation devices must remain open during operation. Air inlets or outlets must not be closable while the stove is in use.

An external air connection – for example, via the basement or through the chimney system – allows direct supply of combustion air from outside. Ensure that this air path remains permanently unobstructed.

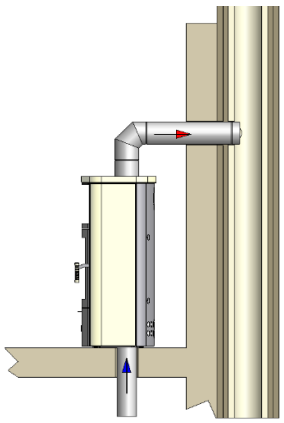
Heating is not permitted when there is negative pressure in the room, as this can cause flue gases to enter the living space, which is dangerous!



Options for External Combustion Air Supply

Left Image:
Horizontal external air connection

Right Image:
Vertical external air connection



Operation of Room-Air-Dependent Stoves with Ventilation Systems
If a stove is connected to a flue and operated in a room where air is simultaneously being extracted (e.g., by kitchen extractor hoods, ventilation systems, or clothes dryers), special precautions are required. Simultaneous operation is only permitted if one of the following safety measures is implemented:

- A safety device reliably prevents the stove and the ventilation system from operating at the same time.
- The flue gas discharge is actively monitored.
- The construction of the system effectively prevents the creation of hazardous negative pressure.

Such installations must be checked by a qualified professional or the responsible chimney inspector before the first use, and written confirmation of safe installation should be obtained.

Floor Load Capacity
Before installing the stove, check whether the floor at the installation location can support the weight. If not, provide a stable load distribution, for example with a suitable hearth plate or by using appropriate fixings (e.g., heavy-duty anchors with support bolts).

4.1 Transporting the Stove to the Installation Site

When moving your Max Blank stove to the desired location, ensure that only suitable transport aids are used—these should be well-padded and rated for the stove's weight. This helps prevent damage to the stove, floors, doors, or walls.

Depending on the model, certain casing elements can be removed before transport to reduce weight and prevent damage. Detailed information can be found in the accompanying Technical Manual.

5. Connection to the Chimney

The connection of your stove to the chimney must be carried out professionally and in compliance with all applicable regulations and safety requirements. The stove may only be connected to a chimney approved for solid fuels.
Certain stove models may be connected to a chimney with multiple connections, provided the chimney meets the relevant technical standards. **Important:** The spring on self-closing doors must never be removed on these models. All relevant technical data for your installer or flue professional can be found in the enclosed Technical Manual.

Important Notes for the Flue Pipe Connection
Flue pipes are a critical part of the installation. Improper installation can result in flue gas leaks or overheating. Always observe the required minimum clearances to combustible materials around the flue pipe.

If the chimney is to be mounted directly on the stove, a qualified professional should first verify that this complies with building regulations.

The maximum load the stove can bear is specified in the Technical Manual. If this is exceeded by additional flue sections or a mounted chimney, appropriate support must be provided, for example through the ceiling structure.

For vertical chimney connections, also consider:
- Thermal expansion of flue pipes (expansion compensation)
- Prevention of condensate backflow

The flue pipe must not extend into the chimney. A double-walled sleeve is recommended to ensure a secure connection.

Chimney Height and Draft
For proper operation, the flue must develop a stable draft. Typical guideline values:

- Minimum draft: 12 Pa
- Maximum allowable draft: 15 Pa

Exceeding the maximum draft can damage the stove or flue and may void the warranty. Draft can be adjusted with a damper or draft limiter, but this should always be coordinated with a qualified professional.

Typical consequences of weak or unstable flue draft:
- Incomplete combustion → higher emissions
- Soot buildup on the glass and in the firebox
- Increased fuel consumption

During transitional seasons (spring/autumn), draft can vary due to weather. A small initial fire can help stabilize the draft.

Stove Readiness
After proper connection to the chimney and correct installation of all flue components, the stove is ready for operation.

5.1 Handover Checklist
During the handover of your stove, review all key points with your installer. Use the handover protocol provided in the Technical Manual.

5.2 Pre-Use Inspection
Before the first firing, ensure the following components are correctly installed:

- Firebricks
- Baffle plates
- Flue pipes
- All movable parts, including door mechanisms and air controls

The stove should be handed over by an authorized professional. Conducting the first fire together with the installer is recommended to receive expert instruction on operation and combustion, helping to avoid misuse.

Important: Any damage resulting from incorrect installation or operation due to lack of guidance is the responsibility of the stove operator.

6. Fire Protection
Your stove has been carefully designed, manufactured, and tested according to international standards. It is intended for burning seasoned wood and wood briquettes.

> **Important:** The stove must only be operated with the door closed. Opening the door is only allowed for refuelling or cleaning.

Minimum Clearances to Combustible Materials
Always maintain the legally required safety distances to combustible materials such as walls, furniture, or textiles. Exact distances are specified in the Technical Manual and on the stove's rating plate.

These clearances prevent overheating and heat accumulation, especially near heat-reflective surfaces (e.g., glass or metal).

Failure to observe these distances may result in damage, which is not covered by the warranty.

Compliance with Fire Safety Regulations
When installing the stove, follow all local fire safety regulations and guidelines. Always comply with the instructions of a qualified professional or flue engineer.

No Combustible or Explosive Materials in the Installation Area
Do not store or use easily flammable or explosive materials in the stove area.
This includes decorative materials such as curtains or fabrics near the stove. Ensure they are either removed or adequately protected.

Ash Disposal and Cleaning
Cleaning and emptying the ash pan must only be done when the stove is completely cooled down.
- Do not use a household vacuum cleaner to remove ashes – this poses a fire risk and may damage the device.
- Dispose of ashes in a suitable fireproof container to prevent accidental fires.

6.1 Surface Temperatures
The stove's exterior surfaces and glass can become very hot during operation.

⚠ Warning: Risk of burns!
Do not touch hot surfaces!

Keep children at a safe distance at all times!

Self-Cooling Handle
The stove's door handle remains cool under normal operation. If it becomes hot, use a protective glove.

Note on Magnets
Some stove models have magnets on the door.

⚠ **Important:** Magnets may interfere with pacemakers or implanted defibrillators. Keep a safe distance if you use such a medical device.

Modifications and Spare Parts
Do not make structural changes to the stove. Only use original replacement parts approved by the manufacturer. Unauthorized modifications void approval and warranty.

6.2 Approved Fuels
Only the following fuels may be used:
- Dry, natural wood with a moisture content of 5–15%
- Wood briquettes conforming to recognized standards (e.g., EN 14961-3, Class A1)

Other fuels, such as wet wood, treated or painted wood, chipboard, waste, or liquid fuels, are not permitted. Using unauthorized fuels may harm the stove, increase emissions, and void the warranty.

Hazards of Wet Wood
Burning wood with high moisture content can cause tar and soot buildup in the chimney, significantly increasing the risk of a chimney fire. In the event of a chimney fire, follow the safety instructions outlined in Section 7.

Regular Inspection by a Professional
We recommend having your stove and chimney inspected at least once a year by a qualified professional to ensure safety and maintain performance.

Maintenance and Inspections
Before each heating season, have a certified technician inspect the stove for proper function, tightness, and wear. Only use original manufacturer spare parts.

7. Action in Case of Chimney Fire

During operation, flammable residues such as soot or tar can accumulate in the stove, connecting pipe, and chimney. This is more likely to occur when:

- Burning wet or treated wood
- Using unauthorized fuels
- Operating with severely restricted air supply (smouldering fire)
- Overloading the stove

If these components are not cleaned regularly, there is a risk of the deposits igniting, which can lead to a dangerous chimney fire.

What to Do in Case of a Chimney Fire

- Immediately close the air supply to the stove
- Do not attempt to extinguish the fire yourself – call the fire department immediately
- Never use water – sudden steam formation can cause explosive hazards
- Remove flammable objects from the surrounding area
- Before using the stove again, both the chimney and stove must be inspected for damage by a qualified professional (e.g., a certified chimney technician)
- The chimney professional should also identify the cause of the fire and ensure it is permanently resolved

Important: Continuous overheating or use of unauthorized fuels can prevent safe operation and will void the warranty.

General Safety Rules

- The stove door must always remain closed during operation and when the stove is cold. It may only be opened briefly for refuelling or cleaning.
- Never use flammable liquids such as gasoline or spirits to start a fire.
- Do not store flammable or explosive materials in the stove area.
- Do not place objects on the stove or in its immediate vicinity.
- The stove is intended as a supplementary heater for rooms with normal fire load; it must not be connected to a central heating chimney.

Cleaning & Ash Disposal

- Only remove ashes when the stove has fully cooled – embers may remain hot for a long time inside.
- Use only suitable ash vacuums for cleaning; household vacuum cleaners are unsafe and may be damaged or catch fire.
- Never use water to extinguish ashes or fires – steam explosions and equipment damage can occur.

Note: Children and pets should be kept away from the stove during operation and while it is cooling, as hot surfaces present a burn hazard.

8. First Firing

8.1 Controls

Before using your stove for the first time, familiarize yourself with the function of all controls.

Your Max Blank stove features an air control lever (air slide) that adjusts both primary and secondary air simultaneously. Recommended settings and further instructions can be found in the accompanying *Technical Manual*.

The air slide is located below the stove door.

The indicated positions were determined under laboratory conditions. Depending on chimney draft, fuel quality, and local conditions, it may be necessary to adjust the air control for optimal performance.

Make sure to observe the following:
- Clean, consistent combustion
- Minimal smoke generation
- Clear view through the glass

8.2 Initial Firing

Safety Precautions Before First Use

- Never use flammable liquids such as gasoline or spirits for ignition or operation.
- Check that the firebrick lining is fully and correctly installed before lighting.

First Use – Burning-in the Stove

Firebricks contain residual moisture from manufacturing and expand when heated. Rapid or uneven heating can cause stress cracks. Gradual firing ensures even drying and expansion.

Procedure:

1. Light a small fire with approx. 1 kg of dry wood.
2. Repeat this process three times, allowing at least 3 hours of cooling between each burn.
3. Only after this should the stove be operated with the full amount of wood specified in the Technical Manual.

Paint Curing

The high-quality paint fully hardens only after several hours of operation. During this period, temporary odours or vapours may occur – this is normal and harmless.

- Do not touch painted surfaces while curing.
- Do not place objects on the stove.
- Ensure adequate ventilation during initial hours of operation.

Damage to the surface may occur otherwise. (Further details in Section 12.)

Proper Ignition

Use only approved fire starters (e.g., ignition cubes) and a small amount of dry kindling:

- Newspapers are not permitted.
- Once kindling burns evenly, add 2–3 logs (maximum amounts specified in the Technical Manual).
- Gradually increase temperature by adding small amounts of fuel until maximum heat output is reached.

Note: If full heat output is not achieved during the first firing, paint curing and therefore odour duration may be extended.

8.3 Top-Down Firing

Your stove operates on a “top-down” principle: wood burns from top to bottom directly on a firebrick base (there is no grate underneath the wood). This method ensures efficient, even, and low-emission combustion.

Procedure:

1. Place the recommended amount of logs loosely in the firebox, according to the Technical Manual.
2. Add thin kindling (shavings or small pieces) on top, with a suitable fire starter.
3. Open the air slide fully.
4. Ignite the fire starter with a long match or rod lighter.
   Top-down ignition reduces smoke during start-up and ensures stable, low-emission combustion.
5. Once the fire burns evenly, set the air slide to the normal position indicated in the *Technical Manual*.

Important:

- Use only EN 1860-3 approved fire starters.
- Never use spirits, gasoline, or other liquid accelerants – risk of explosion and injury.

8.4 Transition to Normal Operation
After several hours, once the paint has fully cured, regular heating operation can begin.

Notes:
The stove is designed as a supplementary heater and is not intended as the sole heat source for a room.

Refer to the *Technical Manual* for correct air slide settings. Adjustments may be needed depending on chimney draft and fuel quality.

Use only the wood quantity required to achieve maximum allowable heat output. Excess fuel may cause overheating, premature wear, or malfunction.

Cleaning & Maintenance:
- Regularly remove soot and ash from:
  - Heat exchange paths
  - Flue passages
  - Chimney connection pipe
- Have the stove inspected at least once a year by a qualified technician or chimney sweep.

Regular maintenance ensures safety, preserves heating performance, and extends the stove's service life.

8.5 Ending the Fire
Once flames are no longer visible and only embers remain, you can control the stove's residual heat:

For long-lasting warmth:
Set the air slide fully to the right ("–") to reduce fresh air. Embers burn slower and heat is released gradually.

For quick cooling:
Open the air slide ("+") to allow more fresh air. Residual heat dissipates faster through the chimney.

Important Safety Warning:
Never close the air slide while flames are still present or immediately after adding wood on glowing embers. Flammable gases may accumulate, causing sudden ignition that can damage the glass or cause injury.

8.6 Operating During Transitional Seasons
During mild weather, chimney draft may be unstable, and combustion gases may not be evacuated completely.

Tips for weak chimney draft:
- Use a smaller amount of fuel.
- Open the primary air control more than usual for stable flame and rapid combustion.
- Higher flame temperatures help stabilize the chimney draft.

If draft does not stabilize quickly, do not operate the stove. Incomplete gas venting may cause smoke or odours indoors.

Caution with strong wind
Wind may push smoke back into the stove and the room. Do not operate the stove until external conditions calm.

8.7 Using the Oven Compartment
- Before using the oven compartment for the first time, the stove should be fired at least three times.
- Never leave the oven door open unattended during operation.

9. Environmentally Friendly Heating
The correct amount of fuel is crucial for the safe, low-emission, and efficient operation of your Max Blank wood stove.

Consequences of incorrect fuel amounts:

- **Too much firewood**
  → Overheating of the stove
  → Increased mechanical and thermal stress
  → Poorer emission values

- **Too little firewood**
  → Stove does not reach the required operating temperature
  → Incomplete combustion
  → Increased soot buildup on the glass door and firebrick surfaces

Approved Fuels
Use only:

- Natural, air-dried logs with a moisture content below 15%
- Wood briquettes according to DIN EN 14961-3 (A1)

Prohibited Fuels
According to waste incineration regulations, the following materials are strictly forbidden:

- Flammable liquids (e.g., alcohol, gasoline)
- Wet, treated, or tarred wood
- Particle boards, painted wood, pallet remnants
- Wood shavings, bark, pine cones
- Coal dust, pellets (except in approved system inserts)
- Paper, cardboard, plastic, packaging materials
- Any household or commercial waste

Your stove is not a waste incineration plant!

Burning unsuitable materials can cause appliance damage, increased emissions, chimney fouling, and void the manufacturer's warranty.

Fuel Consumption Guidelines
Always load only the amount of fuel required to achieve the maximum permissible heating output. The allowed fuel quantity can be found in the enclosed "Technical Instructions." Overloading can lead to overheating, poor emission values, and significantly reduce the lifespan of your stove.

Optimal Fuel Quality
Ideal wood has a moisture content between 10% and 15%. This is usually achieved if the wood:

- Has been stored for at least two years under a well-ventilated, open protective roof
- Has not been directly exposed to weather conditions such as rain or ground moisture

We recommend using only well-seasoned and adequately dried wood. Suitable wood moisture meters are available from specialist retailers.

Why not fresh or wet wood?
Freshly cut or too wet wood is unsuitable for the stove because it:

- Has very low heating value
- Burns poorly and produces large amounts of smoke
- Heavily soots the glass, firebricks, flue channels, and chimney
- Increases the risk of condensate and tar deposits
- Promotes blockages in the flue or chimney
- Significantly raises the risk of a chimney fire
- Reduces the stove's heat output by up to 50%
- Nearly doubles fuel consumption

Conclusion:
Only dry, natural wood ensures efficient, environmentally friendly, and safe combustion. The quality of the fuel directly affects the lifespan, operational safety, and energy efficiency of your stove.

9.1 Fuel Loading

In addition to using approved and well-dried fuels, correct fuel loading is also crucial for efficient, low-emission, and clean combustion. Please observe the following guidelines:

Basic rules for refuelling:

- **Refuel only on embers:**
  Load new wood only after the previously added fuel has completely burned down and no flames are visible.
- **Single layer and loose:**
  Place the new fuel in a single layer and loosely on the embers to ensure optimal oxygen supply.
- **Correct log orientation:**
  Avoid placing the cut surfaces of the wood toward the glass to reduce soot buildup on the door.

Step-by-step refuelling instructions:

- Close the air slide before opening the firebox door to prevent smoke from entering the room.
- Quickly place the fuel inside and close the door immediately.
- Fully open the air slide so the new fuel ignites quickly.
- Once a stable flame is burning, set the air slide back to the operating position according to the "Technical Instructions."

Advantages of following these rules:

- Clean and even combustion
- Minimal emissions
- A clear door glass
- Trouble-free operation of your Max Blank wood stove

10. Possible Malfunctions and their Causes

Your Max Blank wood stove was tested under constant chimney draft. In practice, however, this draft can fluctuate due to external factors such as wind or outdoor temperature, which may affect the stove's operation.

Below are typical symptoms, possible causes, and recommended measures:

Stove smokes when lighting (lack of draft)
Possible causes:

- Chimney or flue pipes are not airtight
- Incorrect chimney dimensions or unsuitable cross-section
- Door of another appliance connected to the same chimney is open (not permitted!)

Room does not heat properly
Possible causes:

- The room's heating requirement exceeds the stove's output
- Unsuitable fuel (e.g., wet or low-quality wood)
- Excess ash in the firebox obstructs airflow
- Insufficient combustion air (e.g., due to a tightly sealed building envelope or blocked air intake)
- Chimney draft too strong

Stove emits too much heat
Possible causes:

- Too much air supply (e.g., air slide too wide open)
- Strong chimney draft with high exhaust speed
- Too much wood added at once
- Stove is oversized for the room

Smoke escapes when refuelling
Possible causes:

- Firebox door opened too quickly before chimney draft stabilized
- Draft too low (e.g., due to unfavourable weather conditions)
- Firewood not sufficiently burned, ember bed unstable

Tip: Always open the firebox door slowly and with the air slide closed to allow pressure equalization.

Measures in case of malfunctions
If the stove does not function as desired, please check the following:

- Reduce fuel quantity
- Check chimney for blockages
- Inspect connection of the flue pipe to the chimney
- Check cleanliness of the stove connection (air passages may be blocked by deposits)
- If other appliances are connected to the same chimney, check their function and condition as well
- Ensure air passages (e.g., inspection openings) on the chimney are not blocked or closed

Sooting of the glass
During the development of our stoves, we place great importance on keeping the glass as soot-free as possible. Nevertheless, soot deposits may occur due to combustion-related causes beyond our control.

Possible causes:
- Insufficient or excessive chimney draft
- Incorrect operation, e.g., throttling air too early
- Use of unsuitable or wet fuel
- Incorrect positioning of logs in the firebox

Due to these external factors, no guarantee can be given for soot-free glass.

Recommendations for clean glass
- Throttle the air supply only after the wood has fully ignited
- Use only dry, natural wood
- Place logs so that cut surfaces do not face the glass

Regularly clean the glass with suitable cleaning agents (see section 11.2)

Note on operational noises
Especially during heating up and cooling down, expansion noises may occur. These arise from temperature-induced expansion and contraction of metal parts. Crackling or popping sounds are typical of the material, physically normal, and completely harmless—they do not indicate a technical defect.

Disclaimer
The manufacturer reserves the right to make design changes to the stove, provided that technical characteristics and performance are not affected. The manufacturer assumes no responsibility for modifications made independently by the user. In such cases, the warranty will be void.

11. Cleaning

Regular maintenance and cleaning ensure the reliable operation and well-kept appearance of your wood stove.

11.1 Cleaning the Stove and Flue Pipes

Interior and flue pipes:
- The interior and flue pipes should be thoroughly cleaned at least once a year.
- Special attention should be paid to cleaning the smoke deflection plates at the top of the combustion chamber. These must be removed annually and cleaned on both sides using a stiff brush or similar tool.
- For removing ash and dust in hard-to-reach areas, the use of a suitable vacuum cleaner is recommended, particularly for cleaning the air openings in the combustion chamber.

Note for vertical connection:
If the stove is connected directly and vertically to the chimney, the deflection plates should be checked for ash residues after each chimney cleaning and cleaned if necessary.

Cleaning the exterior surfaces:

- **Painted panels:**
  Clean only with a soft, slightly damp cloth and clear water.

- **Natural stone and ceramic elements:**
  Factory-impregnated, so clean only with a damp cloth.

Important: Do not use solvent-based or abrasive cleaners, as these can damage the surfaces.

11.2 Cleaning the Glass

Regular and gentle cleaning of the viewing glass ensures a clear view of the fire and maintains the stove's appearance.

Step-by-step instructions:

1. Allow the glass to cool completely.
2. Wipe the glass with a damp, lint-free cloth.
3. For stubborn deposits:
   - Lightly dip the damp cloth in the white part of the wood ash.
   - Clean the glass with this cloth—wood ash acts as a natural, ecological cleaning agent.
   - Wipe afterwards with clear water.

Notes on cleaning agents:

- Mild glass cleaners are allowed, but with caution:
  - Do not spray directly onto the glass; apply to a cloth instead.
  - For full-glass doors, ensure that no liquid enters between the glass edge and the seal to avoid damage to the seals and glass mounting.
- Door gaskets must not be treated with cleaning agents or water:
  - Do not brush
  - Do not wet-clean

Do not use abrasive cleaners or solvent-based products, as these can damage the glass seal, surfaces, and cause premature wear of the gaskets.

12. Maintenance

12.1 Stove Maintenance

Removal of the firebox lining

As part of annual maintenance, the fireclay plates should be completely removed. This allows:

- thorough cleaning of the firebox
- cleaning and visual inspection of the air supply ducts

Removal is straightforward and can be carried out according to the instructions in the *Technical Manual*.

Cleaning the flue gas system

For cleaning the flue pipes and heat ducts, the deflection plates in the upper section of the stove can be removed. Details can also be found in the *Technical Manual*.

Note on hairline cracks in the firebox lining

Hairline cracks are not defects, but normal expansion cracks caused by thermal stress. They do not affect the function or service life of the stove.

- Fireclay plates with hairline cracks can remain in the stove for many years.
- Replacement is only necessary in case of larger breakouts or material loss.
- More information: www.maxblank.com

Checking the seals

Only intact seals ensure safe and efficient operation of your stove. Regularly check:

- whether door and glass seals are firmly in place
- whether seals have become brittle or damaged

Approval and intended use

Max Blank stoves are designed, tested, and approved exclusively as freestanding stoves.

⚠ Important:
Improper use, e.g. as a fireplace insert or as part of another heating system, is not permitted. Conversion or integration into other systems will result in:

- loss of official approval
- voiding of the manufacturer's warranty
- liability transfer to the company that carried out the unauthorized modification

12.2 Glass Panel

The viewing glass of your Max Blank stove is made of high-quality, heat-resistant ceramic glass. It is specifically designed for the high temperatures in the firebox and resistant to thermal fluctuations.

⚠ Important:
Mechanical impacts can damage the glass, for example:

- during transport or installation of the stove
- by inserting oversized logs
- through improper handling during replacement

Note:
The viewing glass is a wear part and is excluded from warranty. Operation of the stove with damaged or broken glass is not permitted.

Installing a new glass panel
Take special care when installing ceramic glass, as it is sensitive to stress. Observe the following:

- Store glass without tension
- Tighten fittings evenly in a cross pattern and only hand-tight
- Do not force or tilt the glass during installation
- After the first 2–3 firing cycles, check the screws or clamping frame and retighten carefully by hand if necessary

Door and glass seals
The seals on the firebox door and glass are exposed to high thermal stress and may become brittle or leaky over time. We recommend:

- regular visual inspection
- annual replacement if necessary
- use of original replacement seals only
- contact your authorized Max Blank dealer or stove specialist for support with inspection and replacement

12.3 Fireclay / Vermiculite Panels

The fireboxes of our stoves are lined with high-quality, heat-resistant materials such as:

- fireclay
- vermiculite panels
- or specially engineered ceramics

Their functions are:

- store heat and reflect it back into the firebox
- raise combustion temperature, thereby significantly reducing emissions

A clean, nearly residue-free burn is only possible at sufficiently high combustion temperatures.

Replacement and possible damage
The fireproof panels are easy to replace but can be damaged by thermal overload or mechanical stress.

Typical causes of damage:

- Overheating, e.g. from:
  - permanently open primary and secondary air in strong chimney draft
  - uncontrolled combustion with excessive air supply
- Mechanical stress, e.g. from:
  - throwing firewood into the firebox
  - using logs that are too large or heavy

Check before operation
Always ensure before each use that:
- all fireproof panels are present
- all panels are correctly seated and not loose or damaged

Operating the stove without complete and correctly installed firebox lining is not permitted.

Warranty notes
Fireproof linings are wearing parts and are therefore excluded from warranty.

The wear rate depends on:

- intensity of use
- fuel quality
- heating habits

Timely replacement of damaged panels significantly contributes to the durability and safety of your stove.

12.4 Function of Flue Gas Deflection
To meet legal requirements and test standards, a stove must achieve a minimum efficiency. This efficiency is achieved in part by controlled flue gas deflection inside the stove.

By redirecting the flue gases, much of the heat contained in the exhaust is transferred to the stove body before entering the chimney. This ensures efficient heat transfer and environmentally friendly combustion.

⚠ **Important note:**
The correct position of the flue gas deflector – especially the plate in the upper firebox area – is crucial for proper operation. These components may shift during transport or improper handling.

Before first operation, check carefully:
- Are all fire-exposed parts correctly installed?
- Is the deflector plate firmly seated in its designated position?

A misaligned deflector plate may cause reduced performance, increased emissions, and malfunction.

12.5 Seals
The seals in Max Blank stoves are made of high-quality special glass fibres – **not asbestos** – and are specifically designed for high-temperature use.

Wear and replacement
Over time, seals naturally wear out. Timely replacement is essential to ensure:
- airtightness of the firebox
- clean combustion
- safe operation
- Leaky glass seals can also cause excessive sooting.

Seals and heat-resistant adhesive are available from your authorized dealer.

Seals are wearing parts and excluded from warranty.

12.6 Stove Finish
The stove is coated with a special heat-resistant paint developed for high-temperature applications.

Temperature resistance and rust protection

- The paint is heat-resistant but not rustproof and does not protect against moisture.
- The stove is intended for use only in dry, well-ventilated indoor spaces.
- In damp or unheated rooms (e.g. utility rooms, outbuildings), condensation may cause rusting of painted surfaces.

Curing of the paint during first use
The paint must be heated for several hours during the initial firing to fully cure and reach maximum temperature resistance.

- Do not place objects on the stove during this period.
- Temporary odour may occur; this is technical and harmless.
- Ensure sufficient ventilation during the first hours of operation.

After several complete heating cycles, the curing process is finished, and the surface becomes permanently durable.

12.7 Drawer
Depending on the model, our stoves feature a drawer beneath the firebox. Firewood and other combustible materials may be stored here, but the stored material must not exceed the height of the drawer's side panels.

12.8 Door Spring
The stove is equipped with a self-closing firebox door, operated by a return spring. (Note: this is self-closing, not self-locking.)

If the spring loses strength over time, it can be replaced by an authorized specialist.

⚠ **Important:**
The spring must not be removed or disabled. Removal will void the operating permit for the stove.

The stove is approved only for operation with the firebox door closed.

- Open the door only to refuel or for brief cleaning.
- For stoves connected to a shared chimney, a permanently open door may negatively affect the draft of other connected appliances.

⚠ **Danger! Risk of suffocation. Connection to a central heating chimney is not permitted.**

13. Disposal
Note:
- The stove can be dismantled into its individual components for environmentally responsible recycling or disposal.
- For proper disposal, please contact a local waste management company.
- For professional dismantling, it is recommended to engage a qualified service provider.
- Fire-exposed parts such as chamotte plates, vermiculite baffles, or ceramic glass can generally be disposed of with household waste.

Information on individual components:
Chamotte (fireclay) in the firebox
Remove the firebox components made of chamotte from the appliance. Any fastening elements must be removed first. Fire- and flue gas-exposed chamotte components are not recyclable and must be disposed of.
Local disposal regulations must be observed.

Vermiculite in the firebox
Remove the vermiculite components installed in the firebox. Any fastening elements must be removed first. Fire- and flue gas-exposed vermiculite components are not recyclable and must be disposed of.
Local disposal regulations must be observed.

Ceramic glass pane
Remove the ceramic glass pane using suitable tools. Remove gaskets and, if present, separate from the frame. Transparent ceramic glass can in principle be recycled but must be separated into decorated and non-decorated panes. Ceramic glass can also be disposed of as construction waste.
Local disposal regulations must be observed.

Steel sheet
Dismantle the steel sheet components of the appliance by unscrewing or cutting (alternatively, by mechanical fragmentation). Remove gaskets first, if present. Dispose of steel sheet parts as scrap metal.
Local disposal regulations must be observed.

Cast iron
Dismantle cast iron components by unscrewing or cutting (alternatively, by mechanical fragmentation). Remove gaskets first, if present. Dispose of cast iron parts as scrap metal.
Local disposal regulations must be observed.

Natural stone
Mechanically remove natural stone elements from the appliance and dispose of them as construction waste.
Local disposal regulations must be observed.

Ceramics
Mechanically remove ceramic elements from the appliance and dispose of them as construction waste.
Local disposal regulations must be observed.

Seals (glass fibre)
Remove the seals mechanically from the appliance. These components must not be disposed of with household waste, as glass fibre waste cannot be destroyed by incineration. Seals must be disposed of as glass and ceramic fibres (man-made mineral fibres, MMF).
Local disposal regulations must be observed.

Handles and decorative metal elements
If present, remove handles and decorative elements made of metal and dispose of them as scrap metal.
Local disposal regulations must be observed.

Electrical or electronic components
Remove electrical or electronic components from the appliance. These must not be disposed of with household waste.
Proper disposal should be carried out through an official waste electrical equipment take-back system.

Excerpt from the European Waste Catalogue (EWC)
(according to the Waste Catalogue Ordinance – AVV)

Waste Code	Waste Category
15 01 01	Packaging made of paper and cardboard
15 01 02	Packaging made of plastic
15 01 03	Packaging made of wood
15 01 04	Packaging made of metal
15 01 05	Composite packaging
17 01 03	Tiles and ceramics
17 01 01	Concrete (also applies to CaSi boards)
17 01 06	Mixtures or separate fractions of concrete, bricks, tiles and ceramics containing hazardous substances
17 01 07	Mixtures of concrete, bricks, tiles and ceramics other than those mentioned in 17 01 06
17 02 02	Glass
17 04 01	Copper, bronze, brass
17 04 02	Aluminium
17 04 05	Iron and steel
17 04 07	Mixed metals
17 05 04	Soil and stones

14. Room-Sealed Operation (RSO)

1. If your stove is operated with room air, it must be checked how the combustion air enters the installation room. The requirements of the applicable fire safety regulations must be observed. Especially when several combustion appliances are operated simultaneously, there may be special requirements for air supply and air exchange.

2. **Important:** Ventilation or exhaust systems that operate in the same room or in connection with your stove can cause operational problems.

3. **Combustion air**
   For your stove to function properly, it requires a sufficient supply of combustion air. In modern, well-sealed houses, we therefore recommend a direct external air supply – this is referred to as *room-sealed operation*.

4. **Important notes for your stove:**
   - The stove must only be operated with the firebox door closed.
   - In room-sealed operation, the chimney may only be used for this stove.
   - In room-air-dependent operation, several appliances may share the same chimney.
   - The air supply duct for combustion air should have a minimum diameter of 100 mm and must be sufficiently tight.
   - Ensure that the installation room complies with the legal requirements – see your local fire safety regulations for further information.
   - The chimney’s tightness and design must comply with the current state of the art.
   - The stove undergoes a factory leak test; a corresponding certificate can be requested from us.
   - The combustion air duct must comply with the current state of the art (e.g. TROL, etc.).
   - The installation of the chimney, the combustion air duct, and their connections must be carried out professionally, using only the manufacturer’s approved components.
   - For appliances installed according to variant FC61x, a leak test must be performed after assembly (e.g. smoke test, pressure test, or negative pressure measurement).
   - The shut-off valve of the air supply must remain open during operation and cleaning.
   - After a chimney fire, a leak test must be carried out. Replacement of seals is in any case recommended.
   - Open the firebox door only for refuelling. It must remain securely closed during operation.
   - Blocked chimneys are dangerous, as they can lead to the formation of toxic flue gases. Keep the chimney and flue pipe clear and clean them regularly as instructed. Use only the recommended fuels.

15. Handover Protocol – Wood Burning Stove

Checklist for handover after installation and connection

Congratulations on your new Max Blank High Quality wood-burning stove!

This checklist is designed to help you verify all important points regarding the installation.

Please note: Before the start of operation, your stove must be inspected and approved by your chimney sweep. He will also be available to answer any questions you may have.

You can go through this checklist point by point together with your specialist dealer to ensure that everything has been properly handed over and explained.

Stove model: ……. **Serial number:** …….

☐ The stove was delivered in perfect condition and installed correctly.

☐ It has been connected to the chimney in compliance with all safety regulations.

☐ Stove, flue pipes, and wall connections are properly mounted, without visible or functional defects.

☐ The chimney draft has been measured (requirement for warranty).
Measured value: _____ Pa, on (date) _____

☐ The specification plate is clearly visible.

☐ You have been instructed in the **Max Blank storage heater** principle.

☐ A **trial firing** with explanation of operation and handling has been carried out.

☐ You have been informed that only **dry firewood** may be used.

☐ It has also been explained that the flue gas and chimney routing must comply with regulations and that operation may only take place in accordance with the operating instructions.

Tip: If you do not yet own a non-electric Max Blank pellet fire accessory, ask your specialist dealer about the retrofit version.

Buyer's name: ……

Installation address: ……

……

…… …… ……..
Place, Date Buyer's signature Installer / Dealer signature

Please make a copy of this checklist for your records.

MAX BLANK

HIGH QUALITY

For any service-related questions, please contact your authorized dealer.

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