

Things you might need





Supreme Wax Polish used on our wooden mantels to give a lustrous finish

Grade 0000 steel wool used to polish, polished areas of cast iron



Metal Polish used to polish and protect polished cast iron surfaces



Black Grate Polish used to polish black cast iron surfaces to give a traditional finish

Wooden Mantel Care

Keeping your wooden surround in tip top condition is a simple process with a little TLC. Firstly you should avoid letting your wooden surround becoming wet and ensure that no hot cups of coffee or tea are put on top to avoid getting a white ring.

Our solid pine mantels are stained using our own mixed water based stain using Van-Dyke Crystals. The wooden surrounds have 1 - 2 coats of stain depending upon the colour that needs to be achieved. The wooden surrounds are then left to dry before a hand wax finish using Fiddies Supreme Wax - Stripped Pine Colour (can be purchased from <u>www.victorianfireplaces.com</u>).

We normally recommend that you lightly wire wool the surface using a 0000 grade wire-wool before applying a light coat of wax and buffing to your preferred shine. This should only need doing every 1 - 2 years or more often if you prefer to. After a few years the pine wooden surround will build up a patina which will look more like antique pine.

Cast Iron Care

Cast Iron is principally a hand made product. As with all materials poured into a mould, some variation in size and finish is inevitable. Above all, your fireplace is a heat source and can be dangerous if misused. Please excercise caution at all times especially where children, the elderly or infirm are concerened. Safety guards including nursery guards are available to purchase from <u>www.victorianfireplaces.com</u> to help protect from the fire.

Polished Surfaces:

On delivery, a protective oil based film covers the polished surfaces. This should be removed using WD40 and a fine grade wire wool (Grade 0000) before the first fire is lit. During it's working life we recommend that metal polish be ocassionally applied, particularly if the fire is not being used, to avoid surface rust appearing.

Under no circumstances should a water based cleaner be used to clean the surface.

If any surface rust appears on the polished surfaces use a metal polish and a fine grade wire wool (grade 0000) to remove.

Polished surfaces will discolour when used with a solid fuel and even some gas fires, where the heat source is too close to the polished surfaces. When using ceramic coals or pebbles try to ensure these do not touch any polished surface, and try to allow as big a gap as possible to reduce the risk of discolouration.

When using gas fires, the by-products of combustion can cause a whitening of the fireback. This can usually be removed with a soft brush. Also if your product is supplied with a damper plate, this must be fixed in an open position.



Black Painted Surfaces:

These are more ideally suited for solid fuel. Every effort has been made to ensure your purchase will perform satisfactorily for many years, but some precautions are recommended.

- 1) Burn small fires initially, this will temper the iron.
- 2) High temperature paint is used on the working parts of the fire, but eventually this will burn off. A proprietry high temperature paint, can be purchased from <u>www.victorianfireplaces.com</u> to recoat the surface if required.
- Avoid the use of petroleum based coals as the heat generated can cause damage to the cast iron surface. Similarly, continued "heaping" of fuel can damage the facing of your product, so try to avaid excessive use of fuel.
- 4) Clean ash away regularly, a build up under the fire will cause the grate to burn through quickly.
- 5) Avoid the use of very small pieces of coal as these can fall through the firebars. A fireguard is always recommended.

These instructions are intended as a guide only and cannot possibly cover all eventualities. However, sensible use should ensure many years of trouble free operation. No liability can be accepted where these precautions are not followed.