

Questions and answers concerning the purchase and operation of residential

appliances burning solid fuel and concerning gas stoves

• Purchase and operation of residential appliances burning solid fuel

1.	<u>May I operate a fireplace burning solid fuel in my residential area?</u>	Please enquire early whether you are allowed to operate a fireplace burning solid fuel in your house or dwelling or if there is a restriction in this residential area. You get the information about a possible restriction from the district chimney sweeper master and the appropriate authority (e.g. building authority) of your district/city.
2.	<u>What can I do if certain fuels may not be used?</u>	Please ask the representative of district or city council for more information about the restriction and let him/her explain it to you. Then please contact a solid fuel agent of "Deutschen Braunkohlen-Industrie-Vereins (DEBRIV)" or "Gesamtverbands des Deutschen Brennstoff- und Mineralölhandels (gdbm)". Addresses can be found here.
3.	<u>Where can I buy a modern residential fireplace burning solid fuel and who will install it for me?</u>	Appliances burning solid fuels can be purchased at tiled stove builders, specialised trades and building centres. There is a large assortment – classic, rustic and elegant – appliances for every taste and each price category. A list of manufacturers of residential appliances can be found here . For the operation in Germany please attend the Ü-marking or CE-marking on the appliances (since 1. July 2007 with binding CE-marking). The marking predicates the conformity with legal requirements. In the transition period from June 2005 until end of June 2007 one of these markings are obligatory. After June 2007 the appliances only need the CE-marking. But: Self-assembly is demanding "Do-it-yourself-work" and requires special knowledge. Thus the installation of an appliance is to be carried out through a professional trade. So you can prevent problems in the course of operation and inspection. In some federal states it is necessary to confirm the professional installation. Please ask your district chimney sweeper or the professional trade for information in your district.
4.	<u>Which appliance is the right one for me?</u>	The answer is depends on the application of the accessory unit. Please check if you will use the appliance as an additional heater beside your central heating or as central heating. For an additional heater the comfort, the fire experience and the energy conservation is most important. Please note that the fireplace capacity is matched to the heat demand. (In case of doubt please contact your chimney sweeper) When using as central heating an exact calculation of the required degree of heating carried out by a tiled stove builder or a professional trade is necessary. According to the size of the appliance the weight shall be considered and thus also the house's static. Furthermore, the position of chimney shall be defined. If you want to fire lignite briquettes in your appliance, please ensure that the appliance has a grate, which also affects the burning process of wood positively.
5.	<u>Which fuels are appropriate?</u>	Before the first start-up follow the information in the installation and operation instructions. According to the German regulation for these appliances, 1.BImSchV, only appropriate fuels shall be used, e.g. natural, untreated dried wood logs, wood briquettes and lignite briquettes. Don't forget that your fireplace is no waste incinerator plant. It is not allowed to fire waste, plastics, paperboard, treated wood (coated, lacquered, impregnated, chipboards) as well as wet wood in your appliance.(water content over 20%) The burning of unsuitable materials leads to environmental pollution and injury to the neighbourhood. Help to reduce negative reservations against appliances fired by solid fuels. The burning of unsuitable materials also damages your appliance and the chimney.
6.	<u>How often can I operate my fireplace using solid fuel?</u>	If your appliance is intended for open operation, i.e. appliances with open firebox (combustion chamber) or with open firedoor, then the appliance shall only operate occasionally. If your appliance is intended for closed operation only (e.g. tiled stoves) or has self-locking firedoors, then there is no restriction for an occasional

		operation.
7.	<u>Which fire protection requirements are valid?</u>	The fire protection requirements applicable for installation depend on the type of appliance. Detailed advises can be found in the manufacturer's installation instructions. These have to be considered in any case. Ask also the chimney sweeper and the professional trade.
8.	<u>What about the necessary supply of combustion air?</u>	Ask the chimney sweeper or the professional trade if the supply of combustion is ensured. If you use a exhaust hood at exhaust air handling, please advise your chimney sweeper or specialised business.
9.	<u>Where are roomsealed heating appliances required?</u>	If appliances shall be installed in modern houses with hermetically sealed shells and mechanical air ventilation systems, then there are higher requirements to appliance density and emissions. The combustion air supply is carried out by means of sealed pipes from outdoor or a air-flue gas-chimney. At the moment a roomsealed heating appliance needs a general accreditation of the construction inspection. This accreditation is visible through accreditation number and Ü-marking.
10.	<u>Is this chimney suitable for appliances fired by solid fuel?</u>	The chimney shall be suitable for your appliance. Your district chimney sweeper master shall confirm the suitability. The appliance and chimney shall be connected by a specialist.
11.	<u>How often shall the appliance and chimney be cleaned?</u>	The residue of the firebox shall be discharged regularly. Avoid ash accumulation in the area of the firedoor. Ash shall be only discharged at cold conditions and without firebed residues. Do not put or dispose ash in combustible containers. Don't put the ashpan on combustible or temperature-sensitive grounds. The sweep and inspection regulations of districts include sweep periods from one to three times a year. The district chimney sweepers can give the exact information. Foul and sooted appliances and stovepipes are mostly the reasons of malfunctions.
12.	<u>Which solid fuels are recommended?</u>	Lignite briquettes, natural dried wood logs and wood briquettes are recommended. Lignite briquettes has been an established fuel for a long time. Due to resource and production lignite briquettes provide defined and constant quality, which is subject to demanding controls. Lignite briquettes of the brand HEIZPROFI from German lignite briquette areas are ideal fuels and meet the legal regulations. The appropriate fuel for your appliance is given in the manufacturer operations instructions. Caution! It is forbidden to burn up wet or fresh strapped wood! Because it fires worse and causes unnecessary emissions. Here a purchase of a wet wood measure should be helpful. These you can obtain at commerce cheaply. Please withdraw the accredited combustibles for your heater from the operating instructions.
13.	<u>Where do I get lignite briquettes and wood logs?</u>	You can buy lignite briquettes, wood logs and wood briquettes from a local fuel specialised trade or you can order the fuel there and they will deliver it to you. Solid fuels are also available in building centres and consumer markets. Contacts to distributors can be found in "Gelbe Seiten" or you can refer to "Rheinbraun Brennstoff GmbH", "Mitteldeutschen Brikett Kontor GmbH" and fuel distribution companies. Addresses can be found here. (Link to contacts).
14.	<u>How do I store fuels correctly?</u>	Lignite briquettes are to be stored in rooms like e.g. cellar or garage, or roofed places. Package briquettes make transport and storage easy. Fresh-cut wood shall be stored in a rain-protected environment on an air-cooled, sunny (if possible) place and it has to be dried there for approx. 2 years. Only dry wood shall be stored in a vented cellar. In general: Do not deal with open fire in storage-places for solid fuel! Solid fuels shall not be stored near heat sources and easily inflammable materials.

15.	<u>Do you have some further questions?</u>	Please contact your chimney sweeper, chimney manufacturer, appliance manufacturer, tiled stove builder, fuel specialised trade, appliance professional trade or the HKI- association. Other contacts can be found here.
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• All about gas cookers

	<p><u>What connection do I need for a gas cooker?</u></p>	<p>You need two connections. One is the electric powered connection for electrical ignition, light, timer and sometimes the oven. Second is a gas powered outlet, which is connected via a safety tube to the gas cooker.</p> <p>In Deutsch heißt es richtig "Zeitschaltuhr" statt "Zeituhr"</p>
	<p><u>What is a "gas powered outlet" and how does it work?</u></p>	<p>The installed gas pipe meets the so-called gas powered outlet in the kitchen. The safety gas powered outlet is permanently attached to the gas pipe and allows a simple and safe connection to the gas cooker. The gas powered outlet and the gas cooker are connected by means of a flexible tube, which has a gas plug. This plug can be installed with a clip-connection into the safety gas powered outlet very easily.</p> <p>Up to now safety gas powered outlets were only on-wall applicable. For the future safety gas powered outlets can also be installed in-wall.</p>
	<p><u>Which advantages does a "gas powered outlet" have?</u></p>	<p>Gas powered outlets affect the kitchen design and equipment installation positively. Placement of gas cookers are easy and flexible. Now installation and removal can be carried out quickly and cost-effectively.</p>
	<p><u>How to install gas cookers?</u></p>	<p>Every concessionaire gas and water fitter can install a gas powered outlet with gas pipe.</p> <p>The connection between gas cooker and gas powered outlet can be carried out through the user, the specialised trade (kitchen studio) or the concessionaire gas and water fitter, if the flexible safety tube is mounted on the gas cooker.</p> <p>If the flexible safety tube is not mounted on the gas cooker, then the connection between gas cooker and gas powered outlet can be carried through a concessionaire gas and water fitter or - in case of the gas cooker being fitted with a special rod connector - through the specialised trade (kitchen studio).</p>
	<p><u>What about the safety of gas cookers?</u></p>	<p>The gas cooker technology has reached a very high safety level, which is regarded as exemplary. Cookers with CE-marking basing on the series of EN 30 standards have a high demand concerning reliability, quality, durability and ease of operation and service.</p>
	<p><u>Is cooking with gas environmentally sound and efficient?</u></p>	<p>Yes. The physical and chemical characteristic of natural gas allows a low emission application and the primary energy can be used directly without energy losses of conversion. Natural gas can be transferred in useful heating energy without pre-heating and residual heat. This leads to a high energy utilisation and a protection of the environment.</p> <p>Moreover, the underground transportation release rails and roads.</p>
	<p><u>Which advantages result from cooking with natural gas?</u></p>	<p>In addition to aspects like protection of environment and efficiency, cooking with gas is significant for health and comfort.</p> <p>You can cook very gently when using natural gas. With short and hot cooking times necessary nutrients are conserved and vitamins preserved. An especially low-fat and flavoursome preparation is possible: Meat pores close immediately, fresh vegetables remain firm.</p> <p>The open, cuddly flames can be regulated very precisely and adapt each form. Roughness of the pot ground are not relevant, special dishes are not necessary.</p>
	<p><u>Can glass-ceramic-hotplates be used for cooking with gas?</u></p>	<p>Of course! A special gas burner under/on the glass-ceramic surface provides the necessary temperature. Advantages of the glass-ceramic surface can easily be combined with advantages of the gas cooker.</p>
	<p><u>Are there some other questions?</u></p>	<p>We will help you if any further questions arise.</p>