

Ready To Finish Fireplace – Frequently Asked Questions

How do you finish Ready-To-Finish Fireplaces? These fireplace structures are made of steel studs and wrapped in non-combustible Hardiebacker® fiber cement board. Apply desired finish directly over the cement board. Entire finish should be completely non-combustible. Clearances to combustibles are derived from the specifications of the actual burner. See burner manual for details.

Who can help finish a Ready-To-Finish Fireplace? The OGC has a network of dealers and contractors that may be able to assist with the installation and finishing of the product. Brick, stone or finished Hardiebacker® fiber cement board siding or any non-combustible material can be used. [Contact OGC](#) to get in touch with a local contractor.

How close can I finish to the edges of the viewing area of a Ready-To-Finish Fireplace? You can finish right up to the edge of the opening with any noncombustible material such as stone or brick.

Where does the gas line and electrical need to be ran for a Ready-To-Finish Fireplace? The valve and electrical box are mounted near the left side of this structure near the access door. For ease of installation, set your utilities just inside the access door.

Can I run a Ready-To-Finish Fireplace on my LP tank? A 20 lb liquid propane tank should only be used for the 40" model. Longer models will burn through gas too frequently.

Do I need to have electricity run to operate a Ready-To-Finish Fireplace? It is highly recommended to run electricity to this structure for best performance and ease of use. In the absence of electricity, the system can run off of a battery pack (CF-DSI-BP) that uses 2 D cell batteries. If using the battery pack, it is recommended to keep the access door functional so you can easily replace batteries as needed.

What are the vents on the side of a Ready-To-Finish Fireplace for? These vents are required by code to meet the [ANSI Z21.97](#) standards for outdoor decorative gas appliances. It is important to not obstruct these openings when finishing your RTF fireplace. These outlets release heat to keep the inner controls cool and maintain listed clearance. These also allow gas to escape in the event of a gas leak, and allow air to flow through the structure to keep it dry. If over framing the fireplace, install same size vents on the exterior of your structure to allow passive flow of air between the fireplace and the outdoors.

If I want a larger structure for a Ready-To-Finish Fireplace, can I build around it? Yes. You have a few options. Best practice is to use noncombustible framing, sheathing, and finishing materials. Venting the structure for airflow is still required. You can use the vents on the existing structure to apply to new, larger structure. If framing with Combustible materials you must maintain ½" clearance on sides and rear wall (for single sided units), and 3" clearance on top. Cannot use combustible finish materials on the front face of the fireplace. In addition, OGC can economically build the structure to your exact requested dimensions at the factory. Contact your OGC rep for details on customization.

Can I set a Ready-To-Finish Fireplace on a wood or Trex style deck? Yes, provided the decking structure can support the weight of the fireplace and desired finishing materials. Clearance to combustible side rails need to be maintained from the actual burner.

Do Ready-To-Finish Fireplaces emit heat? RTF fireplaces use the same burners used in outdoor fire pits. Heat performance from the fireplace should be greater as the heat is hitting the ceiling of the fireplace and pushing outwards.

Are Ready-To-Finish Fireplaces UL tested for safety? All of our Crystal Fire® Plus burners carry the UL testing. Since the fireplace structure is 100% non-combustible, there is no need to test the structure. All clearances to combustibles are taken from the actual burner manual.

Are additional sizes available for Ready-To-Finish Fireplaces? We offer the ability to make custom fireplaces to your specifications. In fact, about half the fireplaces we produce are custom in size. It is most cost-economical to keep the firebox and burner dimensions standard and just change the structure dimensions. If you desire a different size firebox, we likely have the ability to provide you with a solution. [Contact OGC](#) Customer Service with a request for quote.

Why are OGC outdoor fireplaces the best? Traditional fireplace manufactures hard tool to build just a couple fireplaces in the most common sizes. They first build the firebox and then determine how to fit a burner. OGC does the reverse. We take our already robust, high BTU, tall-flame burners and build a noncombustible fireplace structure around it. As a result, our fireplaces have taller viewing areas, more flame, more heat, many more sizes, and the ability to [customize](#) to the consumers desires.