

# Fireplace Maintenance



## Fire Safe Practices

- Never leave a fireplace fire unattended.
- Build a fire slowly and add more wood only as needed.
- Always follow the 3 FEET RULE\*.
- Install carbon monoxide alarms on each level of your home in the hallway near bedrooms/sleeping areas.

A **chimney cap** is a covering for a chimney preventing animals from entering a home, keeping moisture out, and protecting the roof from burning embers. A clogged chimney cap may force smoke back into your home.



## Fireplaces With Chimneys

- Have a professional clean your chimney on an annual basis.
- Make sure the chimney cap is in good repair and free of clogs.



## Gas Fireplaces



## Electric Fireplaces



- Before using, check the firebox, gas logs and liners.
- Clean the dust and other debris from the firebox.
- Do not alter or rearrange the logs in a gas fireplace.



- Check the wiring components to make sure they are in good condition.
- Keep the inside and outside of the fireplace clean using normal housecleaning solutions.
- Clean the interior with a small vacuum or a damp cloth.

## \* 3 FEET RULE

Keep children, pets, and anything that could burn at least 3 feet away from any heat source.

**FIRE SAFE**  
**South Carolina**



A COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION PROGRAM