

# Vented Gas Logs

Vented gas logs offer the aesthetic beauty of a wood burning fire with the convenience of gas! The heat output from vented gas logs is slightly better than the heat output from a regular wood fire in the same fireplace. This is because the logs are made from a dense refractory material that radiates heat after it warms up. Vented gas logs closely resemble the look of a wood fire without the ash, dust or wood chips and you won't have to run out to the wood pile in the cold.

Vented gas logs primarily produce a yellow flame which is attractive and natural. However, these yellow flames are not as hot or efficient as a typical blue gas flame. Yellow flames also contain soot and the use of vented gas logs does not eliminate the need for chimney cleaning. Since vented gas logs produce soot, a little smoke and possibly carbon monoxide (just like a real wood fire) your fireplace damper must be fully open when using your vented gas logs. Additionally, since vented gas logs produce soot the use of blowers is not recommended as we have seen many cases where soot was blown into the house by the blower. Manufacturers require that the damper be blocked open and the city inspector checks this during the inspection. Since the damper is always open, glass fireplace enclosures are recommended for fireplaces with vented gas logs. Glass doors should always be fully open when the gas logs are burned.

Vented gas logs should only be installed in operable wood burning fireplaces. If your fireplace doesn't draw well when burning wood there is no guarantee that it will work with a gas log. In short, a gas log is not a cure-all for an ailing fireplace. When installing gas logs in a factory-built fireplace check to see that the fireplace is approved for the installation of vented gas logs (most are).

In summary, purchase vented gas logs for convenience, for their beauty and realistic look, and for that warm feeling we all love! Don't purchase vented gas logs for a secondary heat source as you will likely be disappointed.