

Other Considerations

Safety Pilots - All gas logs should be equipped with a safety pilot control. The safety pilot maintains a pilot light and prevents gas flow to the main burner if the pilot is not lit. We will not install a gas log without a safety pilot. When comparing gas logs prices make sure the quoted price includes the safety pilot control. If you are buying from a reputable fireplace dealer this should not be a concern. However, some of the hardware and discount stores are selling gas logs without the safety pilot. Local inspectors will not approve the installation of a gas log unless it is equipped with a safety pilot.

Remote Controls - Remote Controls - Many gas appliances are available with remote controls as an option. They usually add between \$100.00 to \$200.00 to the cost of the appliance. Remote controls add a great deal of convenience to the operation of your fireplace.

Installation and Inspection - Gas logs should only be installed by qualified gas installers. Homeowners may install the gas logs if they have the appropriate experience and tools. All gas log installations require an inspection by the city inspector, even when the gas line is already installed into the fireplace. The cost of the inspection runs from \$30.00 to \$60.00 depending on the city. Only certified gas contractors or the homeowner may obtain a permit for the installation. If an installer requests that you obtain the permit they are probably not qualified to make the installation. The Magic Sweep Corporation is a Virginia licensed Class A Mechanical and Gas Contractor and a member of the Qualified Gas Contractor's Association. Almost all gas log installations require a pressure test. This test is performed after installing the gas line and before connecting to the gas supply or logset. In other words, the gas line is run from either the propane tank or gas meter into the fireplace. It is not connected to the supply or the logset. The line is then capped and filled with air pressure to test for leaks. Leaks will be indicated by a drop in pressure on the pressure gauge. The pressure test is done at approximately 15 PSI depending on the city. By comparison, the working pressure of a natural gas installation is 1/4 PSI and approximately 1/2 PSI for propane. If the logset is connected to the line during the pressure test the safety pilot will be damaged. Most gas log installations will require three days of your time. On the first day we install the gas line and log set and then apply air pressure to the gas line. On the second day, the city inspector will check the overall installation and the pressure test. Then we must come back on the third day and make the final connection to the gas supply and show you how to operate the gas log. There are exceptions - If the gas line has already been installed into the fireplace we simply connect the logset and have a final inspection done. In this case the installation will only involve two days (one for installation and one for inspection).

Maintenance - All gas appliances should be inspected and serviced annually and gas logs are no exception. The chimney for vented gas logs should be inspected as well. Look for our spring mailing for special discounts on annual service. The maintenance of ventfree gas appliances is especially important. If the burner or orifice is fouled with dust or dirt it will cause the burner to soot. Since the appliance is not vented to the outdoors you could end up with a house full of soot (and possibly carbon monoxide).

Propane Tanks - For propane installations we obtain a 100 pound tank from Bowden Gas Company and deliver it to the jobsite. If the customer already has a propane supplier we can connect to the existing tank. A 100 pound tank stands upright and is 48" tall and 18" in diameter. We generally set the tank on blocks so this raises it to 54". Exception - Putting tank on existing patio. The propane tank must be accessible for service, either within 75 feet of the street so it may be filled with a hose or where it can be reached with a handtruck and exchanged. In

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In addition, the tank may not be located where there are any openings to the home below the top of the tank and within three feet. This includes doors, windows, and crawl space doors or vents. In addition, the tank may not be located within 10 feet of an electrical source, such as air conditioner, heat pump, or VEPCO meter. If the customer is using a lot of gas the propane company will install an additional or larger tank. Propane tanks are the property of the supplier, and propane companies will not fill another company's tank.

Gas Lines - We install galvanized pipe as the fuel line. This is cut and threaded on-site. The gas line may be run in crawl spaces, in the attic, underground, or along the outside of the home. In the firebox, we use a short length of copper tubing or a flexible connector from the gas line to the logset.

CO Detectors - For safety's sake, we recommend a CO Detector for all homes with a gas appliance.

When installing any gas appliance consult the manufacturers installation instructions and local codes. The use of a qualified gas installer is recommended for the installation of your gas hearth appliance. The Magic Sweep Corporation is a Qualified Gas Contractor and fully licensed by the Commonwealth of Virginia for gas installations. Give us a call and we will handle the complete job for you. We sell gas equipment, including gaslogs and inserts, and we also install them.