

Vermiculite Board Facts and Warranty information

OPERATION:

During the normal operation of your stove, the refractory bricks will experience heating and cooling. Sometimes minor cracks can occur. Hairline cracks may occur after repeated firings. When these fine cracks occur, you can continue to enjoy the stove. All stoves have a metal structure behind the refractory bricks; therefore, even if the cracks get larger, the stove will still operate safely.

WHEN TO REPLACE REFRACTORY PANELS:

One should consider replacing the refractory bricks in the firebox:

1. If the cracks is greater than 3mm (thickness of a pound coin) or
2. When the crack is greater than 6mm deep or
3. When the surface of the refractory brick has eroded more than 25% from the original thickness or
4. When it starts to crumble and fall apart in chunks.

PREVENTION:

To prevent the problem from happening in the first place, you should "condition" the refractory bricks in a new stove by building relatively small fires for the first few burns and then gradually working up to larger fires. When adding wood to the fire, you should use caution not to throw logs into the firebox, which may hit and damage the bricks. In almost all cases, the back refractory brick shows the most signs of wear and tear because it takes the most abuse from heat and log impact. Ensure you only burn seasoned wood as moisture can weaken the fire bricks.

CONCLUSION:

Vermiculite refractory bricks are a highly engineered product. Small cracks are possible and if they appear, this will not affect the safety and operation of the stove. Consider replacing the refractory bricks when large cracks are present, pieces of refractory brick start to break off or if you wish to change refractory bricks for aesthetic reasons.

WARRANTY:

Due to the nature of the product there is no warranty on Vermiculite fire bricks. You should fully inspect the fire brick upon delivery to ensure that the brick is free from hair line cracks. As we can not control how the fire is used on a daily basis nor can we control the quality of the fuel used we can not guarantee the life span of the brick. Vermiculite board is excluded from any replacement warranties very much as you would expect with tyres or brake pads on a car. When used correctly and carefully fire bricks can last 12 months and sometimes even longer. Please note that using the fire only a few times before the brick cracks does not mean that the brick is faulty as it may have absorbed moisture, a log may have moved during firing and hit the brick or simply been overfired.

We recommend that during the summer you leave the door ajar to allow the temperature and moisture level to level out.