

# Margin Stoves Ltd.

Foundry and Metal Fabricating  
R.R. 2, DRAYTON, ONTARIO, CANADA N0G 1P0



## Installing and Operation of Gem-Pac Cookstove

including Warranty Information

The GEM-PAC is certified to ULC standards S627/CSA B366.2  
Also certified to UL 1482.

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Tested by  
Warnock Hersey Professional Services Ltd.

## Margin GEM-PAC Cookstove INSTALLATION & OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Save these instructions

Carefully read these instructions before installing and operating your cookstove.  
Installation must comply with all local and national building codes.

### MINIMUM CLEARANCES TO COMBUSTIBLES

#### RESIDENTIAL —

	Firebox Sidewall to unit	Backwall to unit	Firebox Sidewall to pipe	Backwall to pipe	Other Sidewall to unit	Other Sidewall to pipe
<b>Single Wall</b>						
Canada & U.S.	26 in. (660 mm)	6 in. (152 mm)	39½ in. (1003 mm)	5 in. (127 mm)	6 in. (152 mm)	30½ in. (775 mm)

For reduced clearances and helpful hints on using your cookstove safely the following pamphlets are available:

IN CANADA: "Heating With Wood Safely" — contact any Canada Mortgage & Housing Co.

IN UNITED STATES: "Using Coal & Wood Safely"  
National Fire Protection Assoc., 470 Atlantic Ave., BOSTON, Ma., U.S. 02210

#### FLOOR PROTECTION

Unit must be placed on a 3/8 in. (9.5 mm) thick asbestos millboard or equivalent extending 18 in. (457 mm) to front and 8 in. (203 mm) to sides of heater.

#### CHIMNEY

This cookstove must be connected to a masonry chimney or a type "A" U.L.C. (Canada) or U.L.L. (U.S.) listed factory built chimney at least 7 in. (175 mm) in diameter. A chimney height of at least 15 ft. (5 m) is necessary (measured from the floor on which the cookstove stands).

#### HELPFUL CHIMNEY HINTS

- Only use insulated pipes for outside chimney.
- For a better draft keep chimney pipe runs and elbows to a minimum.
- Use 3 self-tapping sheet metal screws to fasten adjoining sections of pipe.
- For best draft do not insert flue pipe into masonry chimney further than the wall of the flue tile.
- Single wall smoke pipe must not penetrate combustible ceilings or walls. Clearances must be at least 18 in. (46 cm) from combustibles.
- Always prime your chimney on a cold day with lighter warm air. Otherwise some smoke may be emitted into the room when the stove is lit.
- The chimney connector and chimney should be inspected at least once every two months during the heating season to determine if a soot buildup has occurred.
- If soot has accumulated it should be removed to reduce the risk of a chimney fire.

"Do not connect this unit to a chimney flue serving another appliance."

#### TO OBTAIN THE BEST DRAFT

1. Have chimney cleanout door fit tightly.
2. Seal all chimney cracks and leaks with cement.
3. Check unused chimney for interior obstructions.
4. Chimney should extend at least 3 ft. (1 m) above the highest point where it passes through the roof. It should also be at least 2 ft. (670 mm) higher than any portion of the building within 10 ft. (3.05 m). Trees, hills, overhangs or other houses, etc. near your chimney can cause a downdraft resulting in a smoke filled room.

#### YOUR FIRST FIRE

Wipe the protective coating from the cooking surface.

Build a small fire with newspaper and kindling. Keep it low for approx. 2 hours in order to season the firebox and cure the paint and stove cement. During this curing process an unpleasant odour may be noticed but will soon disappear. Your cookstove is now ready for normal use.

#### BUILDING A FIRE

Open the dampers (on the lower section of the firebox, on the back of the cooking surface and in the warming closet). Using poker clean grates of ashes by moving grates back and forth. This should be done once a day, preferably in the morning.

Raise the liftarm located to the left and rear of the firebox. Place several sheets of crumpled newspaper on the grate. Lay dry kindling on the paper and light. Lower the liftarm. When the fire is burning well (approx. 2-3 minutes), fill the firebox about two-thirds full of good, dry hardwood. Adjust the dampers for desired heat.

Maintaining a bed of ashes of about 1 in. deep will protect the grate from burnout and will promote a longer burn.

For an overnight burn have a good bed of coals and stack firebox with dry hardwood. Close dampers on side and back of cooking surface and partially close damper in chimney. Adjust the amount of closure of dampers till you have an 8 hr. burn. For maximum heat from your cookstove and for your oven close the damper at the rear of cooking surface after fire is going well.

Extremely hot, roaring fires are not recommended as they produce unnecessarily high temperatures, waste wood, and may cause your stove to warp.

Keep ash door and fire door closed while fire is burning. Keep firebox linings in good repair to avoid oven burnout.

Never burn salt water driftwood as it will cause deep corrosion in metal parts.

A stack thermometer attached to your smoke pipe 2 in. above the top of the warming closet is recommended. To reach optimum temperature between 135 C & 205 C (275 F & 400 F) and to maintain it adjust the dampers.

Safety Tips: Burn wood only. Do not use chemicals or fluids such as gasoline to start the fire. Do not burn garbage, or flammable fluids such as naphtha, gasoline or engine oil.

Keep area around stove free of combustible materials such as fuel wood, paper, furniture, or flammable liquids.

#### DISPOSAL OF ASHES

Do not allow excessive ashes to build up in the ash pan. Ashes should be placed in a metal container with a tight fitting lid. The closed container of ashes should be placed on a non-combustible floor or on the ground, well away from all flammable materials, pending final disposal. Retain ashes in the closed container until all cinders have completely cooled. Do not place other waste material in this container. (Remove ash and creosote buildup from above, below and sides of the oven with the metal scraper provided.)

#### CONTROLLING OVEN TEMPERATURE

The oven temperature can be controlled by moving the damper located on the top of the cooking surface to the closed position for more heat or open for less heat.

Important to remember: Lid lifter is to be used to open and close oven door. (A rack is supplied to hang utensils at back of warming oven).

#### COOKING SURFACE MAINTENANCE

Clean the cooking surface while warm with fine (000) steel wool, soap, and warm water. Dry with a clean damp towel. Rub cooking surfaces with paraffin wax or light cooking oil and polish with a soft cloth. When stove is not in use for longer than one week coat surface with light oil.

Heat will gradually turn the cooking surface a blue-black colour. Hottest sections will turn colour first.

#### PORCELAIN CARE

Never clean porcelain parts while hot. Porcelain is glass and sudden changes in temperature may cause cracking. Clean porcelain surfaces with glass cleaner or polish and a soft cloth.

#### CREOSOTE

When wood is burned slowly, it produces acids, which combine with available moisture to form creosote. The creosote vapours condense in the relatively cool chimney flue of a slow burning fire. As a result, creosote residue accumulates on the flue lining. As time passes the thickness of the creosote increases and the opening through the flue decreases. This interferes with the draft through the chimney and eventually could lead to a chimney fire. A slow burning or smoldering fire should not be maintained for any extended period of time. It is far better to prevent accumulation of creosote by periodically maintaining a brisk fire. This can be done with each new load of wood or on a once a day basis.

The use of a good chimney cleaner chemical can also help reduce the accumulation of creosote. It is usually the continuous burning of a smoldering fire that leads to the accumulation of creosote and a resulting chimney fire. Creosote usually ignites by exploding. The quick, hot fire causes a strong draft up the chimney and burns violently. A roaring sound may be produced and sparks will fly from the chimney. The danger from a chimney fire is real as sparks could land on the house and start a fire or heat could penetrate through the chimney to surrounding combustibles. It is a sound policy to have your chimney inspected and/or cleaned on a regular basis by a reputable chimney sweep.

Contact your local municipal or provincial fire authority for information on how to handle a chimney fire. Have a clearly understood plan on how to handle a chimney fire.

#### Manufacturer's Recommendations:

Clean grates first thing in the morning. Remove excess ashes in ashpan. Proceed with building a fire as directed on page 3. Maintain a brisk fire for approximately one hour thus helping to burn off creosote formed in the chimney due to the slow overnight burn.

Check daily for creosote build-up until experience shows how often you need to clean to be safe. Be aware that the hotter the fire the less creosote is deposited, and weekly cleanings may be necessary in mild weather even though monthly cleanings may be enough in the coldest weather.

#### RESERVOIR (optional)

Always keep water in the reservoir when fire is going or when stove is warm (min. 1/2 full). Never fill your reservoir more than within one inch of the top.

## MARGIN GEM WARRANTY

This new GEM-PAC cookstove is warranted by the manufacturer against defects in materials and workmanship for a period of five (5) years from the date of purchase by the original purchaser.

This warranty does not cover the normal wearing of firebox parts, paint, and porcelain finish.

This warranty does not apply to any cookstove which has been repaired by unauthorized persons in any way, so as, in our sole opinion and judgment, to reduce its performance or reliability or which has been subject to misuse, abuse, neglect or accident as a result of shipping or of improper handling or operation.

This warranty does not cover incidental or consequential damages or expenses from delay or loss of use.

If any part of the cookstove becomes defective during the period of this warranty, send part report to:

Margin Manufacturing, R.R. 2, DRAYTON, Ontario, Canada N0G 1P0. provided that authorization in writing has first been obtained from Margin Manufacturing, prior to returning the said part.

In order to validate this warranty, the attached card must be completed and returned within ten (10) days from the date of purchase and the original sales invoice is the only acceptable proof of warranty entitlement and must accompany the returned part.

This warranty and liability set forth is in lieu of all other warranties and liabilities, expressed or implied, in law or in fact, including implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for particular purpose.

Margin Manufacturing, R.R. 2, DRAYTON, Ontario, Canada N0G 1P0

The oven thermometer on this stove is not covered by any warranty. Exceeding 450 F or jarring the thermometer too hard will damage the internals, causing it to be defective. Under good care the thermometer will work good for a long time.