

AES Technical Bulletin

Firepot Warping

Product models covered: All models of Biomass/Corn/Wood Pellet Magnum & Country Flame Appliances.

Topic: This technical bulletin will be addressing firepots warping, what can cause warping, and how repairs are handled so that normal operation can be resumed.

Causes/repairs: A warped firepot will cause improper burning and must be corrected immediately. Contact your service technician to help determine what is causing this to happen. There are many factors involved in causing a firepot to warp:

- Installation without proper fresh air. This can contribute to the firepot warping and seriously affect the operation of the appliance contact your dealer for proper installation.
- Balanced fresh air. Balancing the home to provide adequate fresh air will allow the stove to operate and burn clean, without balanced fresh air the firepot can warp. It is important that you have this checked when installing a solid fuel appliance
- Incomplete combustion. This can contribute to the firepot warping; it also causes excessive ash and buildup in the venting if the unit is not installed correctly. Contact you service technician for proper installation.
- Build up of excess fuel in the firepot. This can contribute to the firepot warping.
- Improper maintenance or not performing maintenance as required. If you are having trouble or have need of proper instruction on, performing maintenance on the unit contact your local dealer or service technician.
- Improperly installed venting, or inadequate fresh air, or improperly balanced fresh air causes the unit to not breathe properly and that could cause the firepot to warp.
- Negative pressure in the home may contribute to the appliance not operating correctly and can contribute to the firepot warping.
- Any twisting, banging or beating on the firepot during cleaning or maintenance may contribute to the firepot warping.
- Excessive force used to seat the firepot into the cradle can contribute to the firepot warping. Due to the condition that the firepot will not flex during the heating and cooling process where metal expands and contracts.

If all of these conditions were eliminated, the design and operation of the firepot would be sound. Because these conditions are mostly out of the control of AES, we decided to improve the firepot in order to make the firepot more user friendly and buffer the above listed possible conditions. The most noticeable upgrade is the additional welds on the sides of the firepot which act as a buffer when force is used during the cleaning maintenance procedure. Any replacement needs would be a chargeable part and not covered under normal AES warranty. Contact your local dealer for information.



Example of what a warped firepot might look like. This could cause poor burning, dirty glass and spilling over of the fuel in the firepot.