



Fire IT UP

Hasmita Amtha looks at the innovations in design and technology of modern fireplaces

Fireplaces have always provided that desirable ambience and, more importantly, a layer of warmth when the cooler weather settles in. But they've proved their importance in contemporary interior design too.

Traditional fireplaces can be a real eyesore, and potentially hazardous. Looking at the latest innovations, we see how form and function come together beautifully, with expert insight from the industry.

PELLET, PLEASE

When it comes to tech innovations, the most noteworthy trend is the movement towards automated heating solutions that prove to be economically efficient too. Ruan Basson of Calore Fireplaces says: "Along with unbeatable efficiencies, our pellet fireplaces offer fully automated heating and self-regulating fuel use, therefore being as economical as possible."

"Select pellet fireplaces also offer ducting to adjacent rooms to get the most out of your home heating. With new European regulations, our range of fireplaces is also Eco Design 2022-approved and offers great quality, efficiencies and economy of use."

From a design perspective, Italfire Heating Solutions' Leonardo Errera notes the changes. "The latest technologies in fireplaces allow for various aesthetic designs in pellet fireplaces, not just a square glass face as seen in the past. There are also rectangular-shaped (both vertical and horizontal) pellet fireplaces, which allow for a much larger view of the flames. >



Italfire Heating Solutions

Calore Fireplaces

HyperFires

macD Firehouse

Home Fires



Infiniti Fires



Hyper Fires

“The latest development is wood-burning fireplaces with convection fans that are ductable to other rooms.” – Pieter Mongie



Calore Fireplaces

“Another development is the all-in-one wood and wood pellet-burning fireplace with an automated ignition with pellet technology and a manual feed of wood logs for the ambience of a wood-burning fireplace.”

WONDERS OF WOOD

Wood-burning fireplaces are evolving too. Pieter Mongie of Hyper Fires says the latest development is wood-burning fireplaces with convection fans that are ductable to other rooms.

“Most of the Carbel fireplaces come standard with Kronos technology that increases the efficiency on the units to 80%, therefore decreasing the wood consumption even further with clean burn technology to reduce carbon emissions.”

Wall-mounted, closed wood-burning fireplaces are quite on-trend and adored for their sleek appeal. David Wantling of macD Firehouse says: “There are some stunning wall-mounted fires by Rocal that are becoming increasingly popular, but our most popular range is the Rocal insert-type fireplace (RCr100 Graffiti). This unit has a number of innovative features, and is contemporary in aesthetic, with a clean look and feel.”

With aesthetics in mind, Malcolm Sims of Infiniti Fires says there’s a growing trend of black border glass that gives the units a sleek, swisher look as opposed to ordinary plain glass. There’s also an appeal for bigger capacity units. >

TOP SHOP TIP:

When purchasing a new fireplace, it is important that you know how to measure the safety for you and your family. All gas fireplaces in South Africa need to go through a testing process, making them Liquefied Petroleum Gas Association of South Africa-accredited for the user’s safety. If you are not sure, ask the manufacturer to provide you with proof of this. – Kristien Viljoen and Judi Hazel



Chad-O-Chef Lifestyle Products



macD Firehouse



Home Fires



Home Fires



Italfire Heating Solutions



Infiniti Fires

A FOR AESTHETICS

When shopping for a fireplace, there's plenty to keep in mind. But according to Kristien Viljoen and Judi Hazel of Chad-O-Chef Lifestyle Products, aesthetics are as important. "A fireplace is often used as a centrepiece and can set the ambience of your entire living area. Find out what the manufacturer has to offer in their finishing options and textures, to individualise it as much as possible." 🏡

With thanks to Calore Fireplaces, Chad-O-Chef Lifestyle Products, Home Fires, Hyper Fires, Infiniti Fires, Italfire Heating Solutions and macD Firehouse



Home Fires

"These fireplaces will heat more of a home. They are in high demand, as people brace themselves for load shedding in winter and still want to be warm throughout their home," says Sims.

GOING FOR GAS

Like wood-burning fireplaces, bigger-capacity flueless gas fireplaces are also gaining popularity as they can heat more of a home, says Sims. "Longer units are also in demand as home owners want slimmer, more visually noticeable fires to place in open-plan living spaces."

On design, Jared Baker of Home Fires says the newest additions to their range are the Panoramic freestanding corner vent-free gas and Flameline drop-in fireplaces. "The Panoramic corner unit has an elegant, curved design inspired by the curved face of our Maluti vent-free wall units. The Panoramic corner is ideal for home owners who only have a corner space available, and will take up much less space than installing a vent-free wall unit across the corner.

"The Flameline is a new series of drop-in vent-free gas fireplaces for home owners looking for a design that's slimmer, and in some cases longer, than the standard drop-in range, and is inspired by current trends of minimalist design in the interior industry."



Home Fires

PROMOTION



FIRE AND GAS LIFESTYLES

Besides providing warmth, a fireplace adds ambience to a home. Fire and Gas Lifestyles is a niche market retailer, importer and installer of a wide range of fireplaces – both wood-burning and gas – suited for various requirements and preferences. With a well-trained team of installers at hand, customers can count on Fire and Gas Lifestyles for a comprehensive service solution, from start to finish. Whether you're in the market for a fireplace or a gas braai, look no further than Fire and Gas Lifestyles.

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