



AES Technical Bulletin

Wood Pellet Firepot

Product models covered: Magnum Baby Countryside (BC-AC & BC-DC) & Magnum Winchester (WIN-ACP, WIN-ACI, WIN-DCP & WIN-DCI)

Topic: This technical bulletin will be addressing the wood pellet firepot, jumper settings, firepot build-up, fuel quality, pre-burn, and education.

Appropriate jumper setting: The number 3 & 4 pin location is the factory default setting. 99% of households will work under this setting. The number 1 & 2 pin location is only used on the Baby should the customer need a little higher feed rate because the fuel is not feeding properly and the unit is not getting enough fuel.

Firepot build-up: Fuel quality is usually the cause for the buildup of fuel in the firepot.

Fuel quality: There has been a lot of fuel left over from the previous year and they are soft, wet and hard to burn. This is not a huge problem as long as the owner knows to stir the fuel, inside the firepot, every 4-6 hours.

Pre-Burn: When a unit is pre-burnt and not hooked up so that you have the proper balance of negative to positive draft, it can affect the appliance operation. This is not noticed as much on larger units or units with a fuel stirrer, but on the Baby Countryside burning pellets it will build up in the firepot a little sooner. This is why we recommend and tell people that when burning wood pellets in the Baby, Winchester and also in the Biomass firepot on the Countryside that a little more stirring is needed when burning wood pellets.

Depending on the fuel and circumstances, the multi-fuel firepot may prove better than the wood pellet firepot. Many dealers are finding out that their customers can use the multi-fuel firepot for all of the fuels. They just stir it a little more often with wood pellets if needed. Some customers find out that they can go for days without stirring and some find out that they are stirring every 6-12 hours. We have no real control over the home environment, fuel quality, installation and other variables so it comes to finding out what works best.

Education: Education of the owner, for the need to stir the firepot whenever it becomes approximately half full, no matter how many hours of burn time has lapsed, is one of the answers. Owners need to have top quality fuel. Owners can mix in from 25-50% corn to the wood pellets, to get additional heat and longevity of burn.