



Morepork Fireplaces
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PIZZA OVEN BASIC INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

The base is made from 5mm thick 50 x 50 galvanised steel angle and measures 1040mm wide and 1160mm deep.

A layer of cement sheet is inserted and a layer of 25mm ceramic fibreboard is placed on top.

Aluminium sheet is the next layer.

Finally, a layer of high-density firebricks is added to form the base.

When your kit arrives, you will need to unpack it carefully and remove the firebricks from the frame to be able to move it into position. Reposition the bricks when you are satisfied with the placement.

There is no need to remove the foil or ceramic fibreboard.

The Dome

The pre-cast refractory dome comes in four easy to assemble pieces, plus the entrance archway.

The internal cooking surface is 800mm in diameter and the external dimensions without insulation are 910mm wide x 1030mm long x 455mm high.

The dome sections are dry jointed to allow for heat expansion.

Once you have placed the dome in position, allowing an even distance around the dome to the edge of the firebricks, use the Selley's FlameFlex fire retardant sealant supplied to seal the joints.

Insulation Layer

A ceramic blanket of 3.5m in two pieces is supplied with the kit. The longer one wraps around the dome and the other is for the top.

Wrap the dome first and cut the blanket with a craft knife to fit - remember to overlap any cuts you make.

Place the smaller piece on top and cut a hole for the flue.

You can now place the flue in and seal around the edges with the Selley's FlameFlex sealant under the blanket to secure it in place.

Once you are happy with the blanket placement you can add the wire mesh supplied. Cut and fold the mesh into place (it doesn't have to look pretty - it is there to hold the finishing mortar in place).

A good tip is to tie with tie wire the front two sides of mesh together across the front of the entrance to hold it in place while you are rendering the first coat. Cut the tie wire off after the first coat.

To tighten the mesh, just twist sections of it with your fingers or pliers, a half turn - it will pull in on itself.

Next, you need to spread the first layer of render over the mesh and blanket. Five x 25kg bags of ready-mix mortar plaster are supplied and should be sufficient to cover the dome per coat. You can always add more if you feel like it. Extra mortar plaster is readily available from your local hardware or alternatively you can mix your own.

At this point you can get as creative as you want and add items to the wet plaster i.e. rocks, stone, glass, scratch design, hand prints, etc. Let your imagination run wild!

When the final coat of plaster/render has dried (approx. two – four days depending on the thickness of the mortar applied), you can stain, paint or even mosaic over it. It would pay to seal it once you have finished if you are using a stain or mosaic to help keep out the moisture (sealant is available at your local paint or hardware store).

IMPORTANT NOTE

Please read the firing instructions below carefully - they are extremely important.

Firing for the First Time

Firing your oven for the first time is an important step to follow closely.

Refractory cement, unlike most other cements, cures fully with firing.

If you have one on hand, a LPG gas burner ring is good to use for this as you can control the flame size. As most people will not have one, the alternative is to make the smallest of fires and maintain for 3-4 hours.

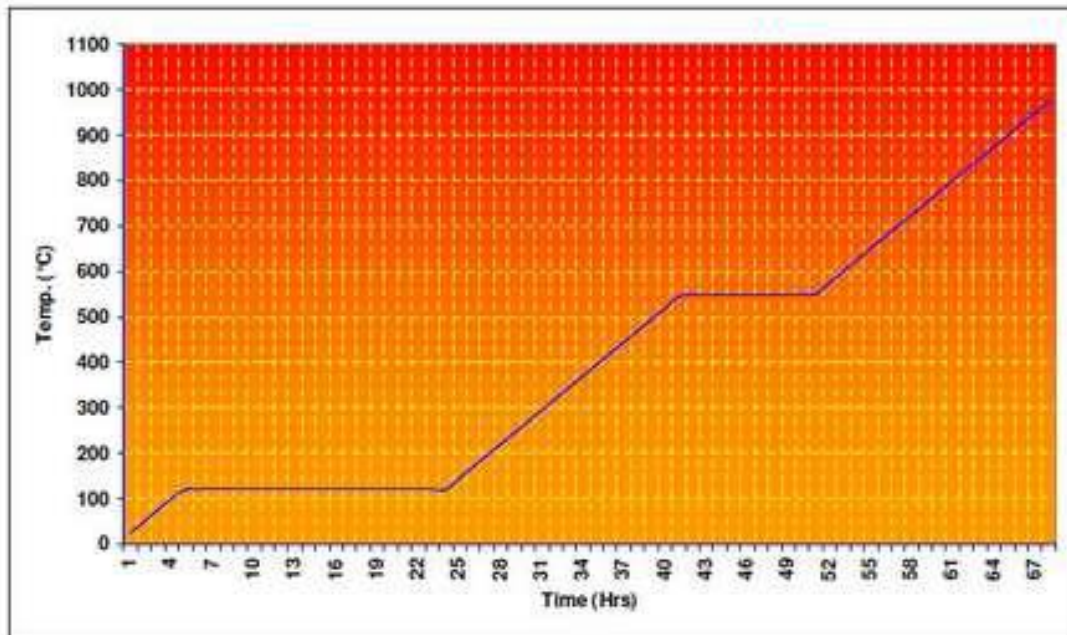
It is best to use small bits of wood, this will burn but will not create high temperatures. You can control the fire if it starts to get too big by blocking the door and the flue, starving the fire of oxygen. This will most likely be a smoky process but is worth it.

What can happen if your fire is too big at first firing is that the moisture still inside the dome pieces will turn to steam and start spitting pieces of refractory and large cracks can also form.

Here is the manufacturer's guide. It is based on a 250mm thick kiln. As the oven supplied is nowhere near that thick you can halve the times in this guide. Aim to keep the temperature at

100-120 degrees Celsius for a day, then next day slowly bring the temperature up fully watching for any sign of steaming.

Graphical View



CAUTION

FOLLOWING ANY FIRING SCHEDULE, BE ALERT FOR VISIBLE STEAMING FROM THE REFRACTORY. IF THIS OCCURS, HOLD THE TEMPERATURE CONSTANT UNTIL THE STEAMING DISSIPATES, THEN CONTINUE FROM THE POINT IN THE SCHEDULE AT WHICH THE STEAMING COMMENCED.