Why is the glass on my stove turning black?

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If the glass of your wood stove or fireplace quickly turns black, there are several possible explanations. These are the most common:

Poor fuel quality

For an ideal combustion, the moisture content of your wood should not exceed 15-20%. A simple test allows you to quickly determine if your wood is dry or not:

1. Take a log
2. On one side of the log (lengthwise), spread a small amount of dishwashing liquid or kitchen soap on a diameter of 5-6cm.
3. From the other side of the log, blow inside. If foam forms on the side where you spread the liquid dishwashing liquid, your wood is dry. If nothing happens, it is not dry enough. You can try keeping it inside for 2-3 days before using it.

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The air does not circulate enough inside the fireplace

An outside air supply is necessary to ensure the proper operation of your stove. Modern wood stoves are designed to bring a trickle of air to the front of the glass to keep it as clean as possible. It is important that there is plenty of air when you start a fire. Air is the condition for a clean and complete combustion process during which the temperature is high enough to burn off the gases and particles that the wood releases.If the gas and particles are not burned, soot will form in the flue or black smoke will emanate. This is why you should check to see if the smoke coming out of the flue is white or clear when you light a fire in your wood stove.

Remember to clean the combustion chamber (ash trap) with a suitable brush or a ash vacuum cleaner and to empty the ash pan regularly so that the air supply is not blocked by residues.

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Insufficient draft

The flue is essential to the proper operation of the stove. Remember that even the best stove will not work perfectly if the stove's draught is not sufficient or correct (minimum flue height 3m50). Before a new heating season, the chimney flue and the flue gas connection piece should always be checked for blockages. The chimney sweep should check both the flue and the stove at least once a year. If you have any doubts about the condition of the flue, you should definitely contact a chimney sweep.

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