



A WETT Inspection is a code compliance inspection and is required for Wood stoves, wood inserts, pellet stoves, cook stoves and hearth mounted stoves. The governing document is B-365. There are three levels of WETT Inspections, most insurance companies require a WETT Level 1 visual inspection

A masonry fireplace or factory built fireplace is built under the Ontario Building Code. As a Realtor, you are better to request these fireplace be cleaned and serviced by a WETT certified chimney sweep.

WETT stands for Wood Energy Technology Transfer and is the training and governing body for salespeople, installers, inspectors and maintenance of wood burning appliances. WETT does not issue certificates nor are WETT technicians allowed to issue a certificate. A technician is allowed to conduct an inspection and report on whether the wood burning appliance is compliant or not.

In a real estate transaction you want to ask for a WETT compliant inspection of the wood burning appliance, not a WETT certificate. There is no such document.

With winter settling in, it's time to get your fireplace ready for the cold months ahead. Stay safe and warm with these fireplace safety tips.

Annual Inspections - Have your fireplace and chimney inspected and cleaned by a professional to ensure that it's obstruction free and clear of creosote - a black, oily accretion that builds up on the inside walls of the chimney. Because creosote is highly combustible, a thick accumulation creates a fire hazard.

Length of Use - Use the fireplace for short-duration fires, no longer than five hours.

Plan Ahead - Clear the area around the hearth of debris, decorations and flammable materials. Use a metal mesh screen with fireplaces. Leave glass doors open while a fire is burning.

When to Clean - During periods of heavy use, clean the wood-burning firebox regularly once the embers are cold. Leave about an inch of ash because it acts as insulation, allowing the coals to heat faster and retain more heat. Minimum once a year or every 60 fires

Upkeep - Check that vents are unobstructed and able to do their job. Clean the fan and all air circulation passages. In non-wood burning fireplaces, clean and adjust glowing embers and logs for best appearance.

Cap Your Chimney - Have a cap installed at the top of the chimney to deter animals from entering, help prevent water damage and keep debris from blocking the opening. A spark arrestor will prevent live embers from escaping the chimney.

Safety First - Always keep a fire extinguisher on hand in case of emergency. Install smoke and carbon monoxide detectors with charged batteries.

Use Common Sense - Never leave the fire unattended. Make sure the fire is completely out before leaving the house or going to bed. Keep children and pets away from the fireplace. Do not use a vacuum to clean up ashes, because embers can smolder long after the fire is out, creating a real fire hazard.

Both David and Brian are WETT certified for Level 1 visual inspections. If you would like a copy of the WETT 2005 document explaining WETT Inspections in depth email David directly.

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Call Pam to book your WETT Inspection.

