



The Jeffery's guide to fireplaces and hearths

Fireplaces and hearths are often the focal point of our living spaces – the 'heart' of the home in style and decor, providing comfort and warmth and housing the 'living flames' from an open fire, multi-fuel/wood burning stove or gas/electric fires.

A traditional part of homes for many, many years, the fireplace has enjoyed increased popularity in the last couple of decades with reports claiming over 14 million fireplaces now in UK dwellings.

These days, fireplaces are available in a myriad of materials and designs. Whether it is a traditional design made of wood, stone, marble, brick, cast iron or plaster; a reclaimed or antique product or a more modern fireplace material such as slate, glass, stainless steel, concrete, veneer or 'faux effect', we can choose the style, colour and finish to suit our individual rooms alongside the process of selecting a fire or 'appliance' plus accessories for that personal touch.

Fireplaces, depending on the material, are available in kit form or individually crafted and fitted into the home.

Hearths will complement the fireplace and are often supplied as part of the package. It is important to know the type of fire to be used before the hearth is selected as the materials suitable may differ, for example, between a gas and solid fuel fire. A large range of colours, shapes, materials and finishes are available, decorative hearths often being composed of slate, stone or ceramic tiles.

Individual tiles of various shapes and finishes are becoming increasingly prevalent for hearths. If opting for these, there are strict regulations governing the size and shape of a fireplace hearth. This is dependent on the positioning of the chimney brickwork/breast and the fireplace opening, the type of fire being used plus the fireplace fixing and, sometimes, the hearth material.

For more details, please visit www.jefferys-online.co.uk, call 0800 454 970 or visit our Living Flames showroom at St John's Lane, Bovey Tracey. TQ13 9AL.