

This wood is not suitable for burning until it has been dried. You should not burn wood until it has a moisture content of 20% or less.

Wet wood contains moisture which creates smoke and harmful particulates when burnt. As well as being harmful to your health and the environment, this can damage your stove and chimney and is an inefficient way to heat your home. Dry it in a sunny, well-aired space for at least two years, keeping rain off in the winter.

Radial cracks and bark that comes off easily suggests wood that is ready for burning. Test the wood when you think it is ready for burning, ideally with a moisture meter. First calibrate the meter and then measure a freshly split surface to get the best reading.

To get the most out of your wood fuel it needs to be dried and ready to burn. This will help you to:

- Get the most heat out of your stove or open fire
- Maximise efficiency, meaning you will burn less fuel
- Reduce the risk of chimney fires
- Reduce air pollution which is harmful to you and your neighbours