

Outdoor Fireplaces

Nothing does a better job of anchoring an outdoor living room than an authentic outdoor fireplace. There is a certain romantic ambiance that surrounds an outdoor fireplace. The glow of the flickering flame invites guests to sit down, relax and enjoy life. Properly designed fire features encourage conversation and soothe the soul. Consider these tips when planning your outdoor fireplace.

What Kind Should I Get?

Wood Burning

Pros: Puts off a lot of heat, natural ambiance, don't need to run a gas line

Cons: Chimney, storage, safety concerns, hard to start, smoke, may be harder to get permits

Pros: Easy to light, safer than wood, no chimney necessary, no smoke

Cons: Doesn't produce as much heat as wood, need to run a gas line, not authentic

Gas Fueled

Where Should I Put It?



Don't block views

- City or mountain views
- Well-landscaped areas or children's play areas

Consider focal points

- Anchor an outdoor living room
- Create a center of activity

Incorporate functionality

- Screen prevailing winds
- Create a privacy barrier

How Do I Make it Blend with My Yard?



Scale it to fit with the size of your yard or surrounding structures



Match something on your house such as the stone or stucco



Copy architectural elements in the shape of the mantel or chimney

If you're looking for ambiance—go small. If you're looking for a focal point—go large

