Varde Aura

Smoke Control Kit
Additional Installation and User Instructions for use in Smoke Control Areas

These instructions for fitting and operating the Smoke Control kit must be read in conjunction with the following Installation Instructions:
Ref: Varde Aura 2. edition FOR-177 GB
1. General

These instructions apply to the Aura 1, 2, 3 & 11 products listed when fitted with a Smoke Control kit.

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NOTE: These appliances have been independently tested to PD6434 and have been exempt from the controls that generally apply in smoke control areas hence are considered suitable for use in Smoke Control Area when burning wood and ONLY when fitted with the relevant Smoke Control kit detailed below.

To meet the Smoke Control requirement this appliance must be operated correctly in order to minimise the amount of smoke produced.

Burn dry wood only.

These instructions must be left with the user and kept with the original instructions which they now supersede.

2. Recommended Fuels

Wood Logs:

Burn only seasoned timber with a moisture content of less than 20%. To ensure this, allow cut wood to dry for 12 to 18 months.

Poor quality timber:

• Causes low combustion efficiency.
• Produces harmful condensation.
• Reduces effectiveness of the air control and life of the appliance.

Do not burn construction timber, painted, impregnated / treated wood, manufactured board products or pallet wood.

3. Lighting

Top-down lighting

The use of ‘top-down’ lighting is recommended, where you light the wood at the top of the combustion chamber instead of the bottom.

Place four small logs in a cross on the bottom plate of the combustion chamber with a small distance between each log.

Place 8 - 12 smaller sticks in a cross on top of the logs.

Place 2 - 3 firelighters at the top and in between the sticks.

A thin layer of ashes at the bottom of the appliance makes lighting a fire easier.

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<th>Recommended Log Quantities</th>
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<td>Length</td>
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Before lighting the appliance, open the shaking grate by pulling the lever all the way out. Open the control on the ash-pan for primary air and open the control above the door for combustion air (alternatively, leave the ash-pan open slightly for a short period, if there is no wind and no draught in the chimney), this allows the fire to catch. Always remember to close the ash-pan or overheating can occur, which is not covered by the warranty.

Light the paper or firelighters.

Close the door.

Once the fire is burning, close the primary air control on the ash-pan and the shaking grate, so that the combustion only gets primary air through the little hole in the top of the control.

Allow the fire to become established until there is a glowing bed of charcoal. You can then add fuel and adjust the appliance, see the notes on refuelling.
4. Refuelling the Appliance

Open the primary and combustion air controls fully and burn for a few minutes before refuelling.

It is recommended that the door is not opened until only embers are left in the combustion chamber. Opening the door whilst flames are still burning, producing smoke and gas, could cause smoke or flames to spill into the room.

Open the door slightly for a couple of seconds to neutralise the negative pressure in the combustion chamber before opening the door completely.

Rake the embers evenly over the fire bed to establish a glowing firebed. If the fire bed is low add a small amount of kindling wood to help re-establish the fire and prevent excess smoke.

Place 2 - 4 logs in a cross on top of the embers and close the door.

Open stacking allows oxygen to easily reach every part of the fire.

Compact stacking will make the wood burn slower as wood can only reach the outside of the fire. This will cause the fire to smoulder and produce smoke.

Do not fill to more than 1/3 capacity.

Refuelling on to a low fire bed:
If there is insufficient burning material in the firebed to light a new fuel charge, excessive smoke emission can occur. Refuelling must be carried out onto a sufficient quantity of glowing embers and ash that the new fuel charge will ignite in a reasonable period. If there are too few embers in the fire bed, add suitable kindling to prevent excessive smoke.

Fuel overloading
The maximum amount of fuel specified in this manual should not be exceeded, overloading can cause excess smoke.

After refuelling:
Burn the new logs at high output for approximately 5 minutes before closing the primary air control. Adjust the burn rate using the combustion air control.

Do not close the air controls until the fire is burning well.
If the fire subsides re-open the combustion air control to re-establish the flames.

Experience establishes settings to suit personal preferences.

Do not burn large amounts of fuel with the combustion air control closed for long periods of time. This reduces the glass cleaning effect and causes tars and creosotes to build-up in the appliance and flue system and will produce excessive amounts of smoke.

When in use, burning the appliance at high output for a short period also reduces tars and creosote.

When running the appliance:
Refuel little and often for clean, efficient burning.

Wood burns best on a bed of ash.

A bright and clean firebox indicates the appliance is burning well.

5. Controlling the air

The appliance has various features for the air control:

Primary air control
The valve on the ash-pan is for use initially when lighting fires.
- Burning position: The control is closed when the small handles are in the horizontal position.
- Lighting position: The control is open when the small handles are in the vertical position, allowing a flow of primary air into the combustion chamber.

Combustion/ Secondary air
Pre-heated air for the combustion process which, can be altered according to the desired room temperature and the effectiveness of the chimney.
A high level of chimney draught requires a smaller intake of combustion air.

Tertiary air (Pre-set)
Constantly added air, which makes the appliance burn cleaner and lowers the content of tar and soot in the combustion process to an absolute minimum.
At optimal combustion settings, the glass and combustion chamber will be burnt completely clean and the remaining amount of ashes will be minimal.

5. Advice

Never burn wood with an open door.

If you frequently have low intensity fires, tar and creosote may be deposited in the chimney. Tar and creosote are highly combustible substances. Thicker layers of these substances might catch fire when the temperature in the chimney increases suddenly and steeply. Therefore it is necessary for the fire to regularly burn at a high output for short periods, so that layers of tar and creosote disappear.

Low intensity fires also cause tar deposits on the appliance window and door.

When the outside temperature is not very low, it is better to burn wood intensely for a few hours instead of having a low intensity fire for a long period of time.

Control the air supply with the combustion air control.

The combustion air inlet not only supplies airwash to the fire but to the glass as well, so that it does not get dirty so quickly.

Open the primary air inlet for a time if the air supply by the secondary air inlet is inadequate or if you want to boost the fire, for a short period.

Do not use the appliance continuously with the air controls fully open.

It is better to add a small amount of logs regularly than to add many logs at the same time.

6. Extinguishing the fire

Do not add fuel and just let the fire go out. If a fire is damped down by reducing the supply of air, harmful substances will be produced and released. Therefore, let the fire go out naturally. Keep an eye on the fire until it is gone out. If the fire has died completely, all air inlets can be closed.
These instructions cover the fitting of the Smoke Control Kit

1. Parts List

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Kit contents:
1 x Smoke Control Air Slider
1 x Retaining Clip

2. Smoke Control Kit - Fitting Instructions

To fit the Smoke Control kit first remove the cast top plate. Place carefully to one side.

Remove the retaining clip using pliers or a screwdriver. Dispose of the clip.

Remove the combustion air control slider.

Place the Smoke Control air slider onto the stud and secure with the retaining clip supplied in the kit.

Replace the cast top plate ensuring that the front slots locate over the tabs on the top of the appliance, with the back resting on the bolts.

The top plate should sit flush to the appliance casing.

The new Smoke Control air control will now restrict the movement of the air slider in order to comply with Smoke Control Regulations.
An appliance modified for Smoke Control can be recognised in the following manner:

Lift the top plate slightly. The air slider has an additional spur on the handle.

Appliances that have not been fitted with the Smoke Control kit have a straight air control handle. Lift the top plate slightly to view.

The air control on appliances modified for Smoke Control cannot shut down completely.
The Clean Air Act 1993 and Smoke Control Areas

Under the Clean Air Act local authorities may declare the whole or part of the district of the authority to be a smoke control area. It is an offence to emit smoke from a chimney of a building, from a furnace or from any fixed boiler if located in a designated smoke control area. It is also an offence to acquire an “unauthorised fuel” for use within a smoke control area unless it is used in an “exempt” appliance (“exempted” from the controls which generally apply in the smoke control area).

The Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has powers under the Act to authorise smokeless fuels or exempt appliances for use in smoke control areas in England. In Scotland and Wales this power rests with Ministers in the devolved administrations for those countries. Separate legislation, the Clean Air (Northern Ireland) Order 1981, applies in Northern Ireland. Therefore it is a requirement that fuels burnt or obtained for use in smoke control areas have been “authorised” in Regulations and that appliances used to burn solid fuel in those areas (other than “authorised” fuels) have been exempted by an Order made and signed by the Secretary of State or Minister in the devolved administrations.

Further information on the requirements of the Clean Air Act can be found here: http://smokecontrol.defra.gov.uk/

Your local authority is responsible for implementing the Clean Air Act 1993 including designation and supervision of smoke control areas and you can contact them for details of Clean Air Act requirements.

The Varde Ovne Aura 1 (VD-AURA1) - Varde Ovne Aura 2 (VD-AURA2) - Varde Ovne Aura 3 (VD-AURA3) - Varde Ovne Aura 11 (VD-AURA11) have been recommended as suitable for use in smoke control areas when burning dry wood logs when suitable permanent stops have been fitted and when operated in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions.

United Kingdom and Eire distributors of Varde Ovne

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