



## Fire Pit safety guidelines

The fire pit is designed to hold a fire safely and prevent damage to grass and surrounding areas. However fire is inherently dangerous and care should be taken at all times. If possible, it is advisable to have in the vicinity of the fire pit a hose pipe, a fire blanket and a bucket of sand. It is safer to hold your fire within the fire pit and with the ash tray underneath rather than on open ground. Treat the fire with care and respect.

1. Do not attempt to lift the fire pit on your own.
2. Do not attempt to move the fire pit when it is still burning or hot.
3. The fire pit should be sited on a flat surface that is non combustible. It should not be placed directly onto a wooden surface.
4. The surface the Fire Pit is to be placed on should be flat and level.
5. Do not leave the Fire Pit unattended. It gets very hot and could pose a hazard to both children and pets.
6. Keep pets and children away from the Fire Pit.
7. Make sure that the Fire Pit is placed away from other materials that could burn or catch fire, both overhead and to the side, such as tree branches, sheds, awnings, washing lines, fences and plants. When burning as a fire the flames can spread very far as shown by pictures throughout this website.
8. Never use an accelerant (oil, petrol, lighter fuel, thinners etc...) to light the Fire Pit.
9. Never touch the sides of the Fire Pit, as it may be hot.
10. The Fire Pit is to be used as an outside log burner or barbeque and is not to be used indoors.
11. Do not put treated or painted wood onto the fire as this emits toxic gases and fumes.
12. Do not burn plastics on the fire pit as they will emit toxic gases and fumes and also melt and spoil the appearance of the Fire Pit.
13. Do not wear loose or flowing clothes when working or cooking on the fire pit.
14. Do not place aerosols onto the Fire Pit, as these will explode when hot.
15. Always have a fire extinguisher handy when using the Fire Pit.
16. Invest in heat proof gloves which will be available from firms supplying log burners.
17. After use, ensure the flames are completely out.
18. While the fire pit is not a bonfire in the traditional sense of the word it is worth appreciating the regulations and local authority rules with regard to bonfires.
  - i. Bonfires are not illegal but may occasionally be prohibited by local bye-laws. They can be a nuisance to people nearby. If serious and frequent enough they be a 'statutory nuisance', meaning legal action can be taken by neighbours or the local authority. Occasional bonfires, or several at different sites would not be a legal nuisance, but repeated bonfires in the same spot might be.
  - ii. Although you can have bonfires on your own land, tenants might find bonfires are prohibited under the terms of their tenancies. This can also apply to the tenants of council allotments.
  - iii. Even where allotment plot holders are allowed bonfires only allotment waste (and possibly garden waste from their own gardens) may be burned.
  - iv. Always consider what materials can be composted or recycled.
  - v. Burning household refuse, tyres, engine oil, plastics and other man made waste is potentially polluting and should be avoided completely.
  - vi. The burning of wastes produced by trades and businesses is usually specifically prohibited.
  - vii. Bonfires are a useful tool in disposing of garden wastes – especially diseased material- so are best conducted in a way that avoids antagonising those living or working nearby.
  - viii. Smouldering fires of damp 'green' material can produce a lot of smoke.
  - ix. Burn dry material at times when smoke will not drift over housing, schools, roads or other areas it where will cause a nuisance.
  - x. Be careful about fires in dry spell in case they run out of control.



### **Looking after your fire pit**

The fire pit is manufactured from hot rolled stainless steel. This has a dull finish from new, which is preferable to having a very shiny finish which would be immediately spoiled. After using the fire pit for the first time it will be dirty and discoloured. All of the stainless steel can be washed and scrubbed with abrasives, scourers and proprietary stainless steel cleaners. It will not damage the function of the unit. Scouring and abrasives will change the appearance of the reflective parts of the fire pit such as the ash tray. The ash tray has an almost mirror like finish and whilst this will probably get scratched with use it will still have a reflective quality which will look good when it is turned over and stored inside the Helios models. All of the stainless steel can be washed and scrubbed as you would a stainless steel kitchen sink. The colour of the unit will change depending on what is burnt on it and whilst there could be a bronze or blue patina appear this will not affect the integrity of the unit.

The grill is not designed to be cooked on directly, our stainless steel cooking trays clean up easily after use. We use Lakeland Plastics, Oven Mate, biodegradable oven cleaner if we cannot manage to clean them with a foam filled pad.

One of the greatest benefits of the fire pit is that is built as a work horse and is built to last. It should stand outside year in and year out and still give good service as there is nothing to break or wear out. It is simple and strong.

\*This document is intended as a guideline, individual circumstances may require alternative methods.