Southern Tradition™ Outdoor Fireplace
Featuring StoneAge® Wood-burning Firebox

Installation Guide

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SOUTHERN TRADITION™ OUTDOOR FIREPLACE KIT

INSTALLATION GUIDE

Congratulations on the purchase of your new Southern Tradition™ fireplace. This installation guide will enable you to obtain a safe, efficient and dependable installation of your fireplace system. We urge you to read this complete instructional guide for both the entire kit before starting the project. It is important to fully review all steps in the proper sequence to assure a proper final result as there is adhesive used at intervals and it will be extremely difficult to backtrack once adhesive is set.

Your Southern Tradition™ fireplace kit weighs nearly 10,200 pounds. It is important to know where you may or may not construct the fireplace to assure it will stand firmly and safely and provide years of service. DO NOT build on top of a wooden deck or any surface that is not properly prepared to support the fireplace. It is recommended the fireplace kit be constructed on top of a newly poured or pre-existing concrete pad or properly constructed concrete paver surface such as a patio. Always check for level to assure the balance of the fireplace is correct and never leaning.

Specific components of the fireplace kit have an individual weight of approximately 50 pounds. For that reason more than one person may be needed to lift and place these components especially when placing items above normal standing height and with the use of a ladder or scaffold.

Masonry Adhesive caulk is required when setting layers of concrete block. Ask the dealer who sold you this kit which adhesive is best for the job. Many good brands of adhesive are in the marketplace. Read and follow manufacturer’s instruction when using masonry adhesive caulk.

TOOLS & MATERIALS NEEDED:

If you are constructing your fireplace on a pre-existing concrete or paver surface such as a patio:
• Hammer or mallet with a wood or rubber head
• Measuring tape - minimum of 10-foot capacity.
• Carpenter’s level - preferably a minimum of 4-feet in length
• Chalk line or masonry string to mark the footprint of the fireplace at the foundation
• Caulking gun - for masonry adhesive application
• Utility knife - for random cutting of wrapping or adhesive tubes
• Two sturdy step-ladders. The fireplace is tall (109”). It is advisable to use a sturdy and proper height ladder for the job. A short ladder may compromise the safety of the user when lifting and placing concrete objects above normal standing height.
  • Adhesive caulk (recommend 8 tubes)
  • 3 Cans of heat-resistant fireplace spray paint

TOOLS & MATERIALS NEEDED:
If you need to construct a concrete pad prior to building your fireplace.
• All of the tools listed above
• Shovel
• Hoe - for mixing sacked concrete or if you plan to have concrete ready-mixed and delivered
• Rake
  • Pale of Multi-purpose Ready-Mix mortar (for use on the fireplace kit itself)
  • Adhesive caulk (recommend 8 tubes)
  • 3 cans of heat-resistant fireplace spray paint (black)

• Masons trowel - for smoothing the surface of the concrete pad
• 8D Common framing nails or 3-inch wood screws (for framing the footer pad)
• Phillips head screwdriver
• Drill with Phillips head screwdriver (optional)
• Water hose and/or water bucket
• Sonotube – 8” diameter round cardboard forms used when creating additional subsoil reinforcement if necessary (available at the dealer who sold you this kit)

**FIREPLACE KIT COMPONENTS CHECK LIST**

**BLOCK**
- Grey Block – 8x8x16: 16
- Southern Tradition™ – 8x8x16: 249
- Southern Tradition – 8x8x12: 75
- Southern Tradition – 8x8x8: 6
- Southern Tradition – 8x8x16 notched: 2

**MISCELLANEOUS**
- 3x5x46 - Steel Lintel: 1
- SA36PS – Firebox, throat and flue kit: 1 (includes 2 flue extensions and steel fire grate)
- 24x24 Flue extensions: 4
- Spark Arrester: 1
- Adhesive caulk – small tubes: 8 (tubes not included in the kit)
- Heat resistant spray paint / black: 3 (cans not included in the kit)
- Multi-purpose Ready-mix mortar: 1 (5-gallon pale not included in the kit)

**INTRODUCTION TO THE SOUTHERN TRADITION™ FIREPLACE KIT**

You have purchased the Southern Tradition™ fireplace in one of two kit forms. One as a completely assembled firebox and chimney with veneer blocks on separate pallets. The second is a non-assembled firebox and chimney with veneer blocks on separate pallets. The only difference between the two is the fully assembled firebox and chimney will save the time it takes to build it on site. Otherwise the two kits are the same including the footing or surface where the fireplace will sit. The following instructions will walk you through the entire set up from footing construction to fire in the fireplace. Be sure to read and understand the steps for setting each course and component before beginning the project.
STEPS FOR CONSTRUCTION

STEP 1: If you must build a concrete footing or pad in which to place the fireplace.
Identify the exact placement for your fireplace to sit. Determine if the spot has a pre-existing concrete surface or concrete paver base. If it does not, you will need to prepare and construct a surface/pad before building the fireplace. See (Drawing A) as a guide for a concrete pad. NOTE: Due to the amount of time necessary for concrete to cure, a period of 28-days must be given for the pad to be ready to sustain the weight of the fireplace kit (10,200 lbs.).
If you choose to prepare a concrete paver surface, follow the paver manufacturer’s recommended installation procedure as to amount and compaction of materials beneath the paver system.

STEP 2:
Once the concrete pad or concrete paver surface is prepared and ready for the fireplace, mark the placement of your fireplace base with a chalk line or string. Make sure the outline coincides with the base dimension marked on Course #1 of the installation drawings.

STEP 3: Instruction for construction of the firebox and flue components.
The kit is intended to be built in two stages. The first is the firebox and flue and the second is the Southern Tradition block veneer.
A) Installation of the fireplace is very simple. Use 8x8x16 grey concrete block (Drawing B) to build the base to place the firebox at the desired height above the finished grade or the footing.
B) Atop the grey block base place 4 Southern Tradition blocks at the center of the front, back and both sides (Drawing B1). The front and back will require a 16” long block and the sides a 12” long block. Lay the blocks flat as shown on the drawing.
C) Once the base is level, square and complete, set the baseplate (Drawing C Piece #1). Make sure it is even on the back and two sides with the base. On the front of the fireplace make sure the baseplate is flush (lines up even) with the base grey block below. This is critical. Continue with each piece level and plumb as you go up.
D) Install pieces #2A, 2B, 3A, 3B and 4 of the fire box then #5 and 6 of the throat using Multi-purpose Ready-Mix mortar to set each piece. The mortar joint should not be too thick. About ½” to 3/8” is optimal.
E) Continue installation of flue pieces #7A, 7B, 7C, 7D, 7E, and 7F again using the Ready-mix mortar on each joint.
F) IMPORTANT NOTE: The firebox unit should not be fired for 28-days after completion, to allow full curing of mortar and to release moisture within the fireplace components. Break in or cure the fireplace by building 3 small fires before building a larger fire.

STEP 4:
Begin laying the Southern Tradition block units.
Along the string line (lead edge of the firebox) set the first course by placing the Southern Tradition blocks end-to-end in the identical manner as the drawing. Make sure you select the proper size block each time and place it according to the detail provided. Any deviation from this placement will cause the kit to install incorrectly. This means lost time to dismantle any incorrect layers of block and likely damage to the block as adhesive may be in place causing difficult if not impossible detachment of the
blocks. Should this occur set the unusable blocks aside and go on with the installation using blocks from the pallet, then determine once the pallet of blocks is empty how many blocks and what sizes you will need to be replaced from the location where you bought the kit.

STEP 5:
Adhesive caulk is required when setting select layers/courses of concrete block. Adhesive caulk is marked on the block at Courses 5, 6, 7, 13, 16, 17, 21, 25, 27 and 28. Before moving to the next course of block, apply masonry adhesive caulk by dabbing two spots on the block shown on the instruction drawing the size of a coin quarter. Press the block firmly to allow the adhesive to spread evenly. It takes about 15 minutes for the adhesive to set up. This will keep the block in place and free of lateral sliding. No need to stop building the kit while adhesive sets up.

STEP 6:
Continue to place concrete block units according to the detailed diagram provided.

STEP 7:
There are unique features at courses #6, 7, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22 and 28. Mostly a slight narrowing of the course as it conforms to the chimney, the chimney crown, the hearth, the mantle, the steel lintel support and detail opening of the firebox. Make sure you read and understand the drawing for directions as to these unique courses.
On course #6 the front edge makes up the hearth. These 16" block will protrude and be unstable so use ample amounts of adhesive to the blocks on course #5 before setting the hearth blocks. Use another block or object to counter the balance the hearth blocks after adhesive is placed on each block of course #5. Otherwise the blocks may want to tip forward. Keep these counter-weight blocks in place until the fireplace is finished in order to give the adhesive plenty of time to cure before removing the counter-weight blocks.
Course #7 will begin the firebox opening so the block in the front will hold in place the hearth pieces on the far left and right 3 pieces. Continue to build courses #7 thru 13.

STEP 8:
Check to make sure course #13 has two NOTCHED 16" block units left and right of the firebox opening. These two blocks will support the steel lintel of course #14. Place the lintel as per the drawing and continue to build courses #14 thru 17 noticing they are beginning to taper with the chimney throat.

STEP 9:
Course #18 is the MANTLE course. The 12" block on the front must be glued as shown and protrude as shown on the drawing. Move on to courses #19 thru 22 as they all taper and will need dab of adhesive as shown.

STEP 10:
Finish out the last courses up to and including course #29 according to the drawing.

STEP 11:
Set and attach the metal spark arrester to the clay portion of the flue liner 7F with screws provided.

**STEP 12:**
Trowel on Ready-mix mortar at a sloping angle from the base of the flue to the base of the spark arrester.

**STEP 13:**
With the hearth blocks on course #6 in place, adhesive fully cured and properly secured, spray the inside of the firebox with heat-resistant spray paint. Start at the top of the throat of the box and work downward making sure not to overspray any of the hearth or veneer sides of the firebox. Use the cans completely and use more than one coat if necessary to empty the cans. **CAUTION:** It is recommended to use gloves, safety glasses, a long sleeve shirt and a disposable safety mask when using spray-on heat-resistant paint.

You now have completed the installation process. CONGRATULATIONS.

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**ALL QUESTIONS** concerning this Southern Tradition™ fireplace kit are to be directed to the store where the kit was purchased.

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The maker is not liable for damages or injury to persons or other incidental or consequential damages.

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Fireplace Kit – Foundation (only as needed)

Drawing A

Foundation Isometric

Position of fireplace kit begins flush with the load edge of the concrete pad and centers left to right.

Site Cast Concrete Foundation Slab 6" thick w/Rebar to Local Codes

Footings to Frost Vary by Region 8" Dia. Concrete Piers in Cardboard Forms, Include Rebar into Foundation to Local Codes (Typ).

Foundation Plan

Site Cast Concrete Foundation Slab 6" thick w/Rebar to Local Codes

70" minimum or a greater width of your choosing

54" minimum or a greater depth of your choosing
Course A – Grey Block base

No mortar necessary with Course A and Course B Grey Concrete Block

Position of eventual Course 1 – Southern Tradition veneer blocks

Open Space

54" Minimum Concrete Pad or Paver Surface

Course A of Concrete Grey Block sets back from front of concrete pad 8-inches

69" Minimum Concrete Pad or Paver Surface

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Course B – Grey Block Base

Course C – Southern Tradition - Spacer support blocks for fire box.

Course C - Position of Southern Tradition 16" and 12" block (no mortar needed)
Sequence for building the firebox, throat and chimney for the wood-burning StoneAge Insert

NOTE: Front edge of firebox base will line up with the Grey Block beneath it. (No set-back)
Course 1 – Southern Tradition Blocks

Check to make sure to place the correct size SOUTHERN TRADITION block as indicated on the drawing below and all following pages. It is CRITICAL to complete the courses correctly.

EXISTING CONCRETE PAD

Place SOUTHERN TRADITION blocks as close to the front edge as possible
Course 2 – Southern Tradition Blocks

Check to make sure to place the correct size SOUTHERN TRADITION block as indicated on the drawing below and all following pages. It is CRITICAL to complete the courses correctly.

EXISTING CONCRETE PAD

Place SOUTHERN TRADTION blocks as close to the front edge as possible
Course 3 – Southern Tradition Blocks

Check to make sure to place the correct size SOUTHERN TRADITION block as indicated on the drawing below and all following pages. It is CRITICAL to complete the courses correctly.

EXISTING CONCRETE PAD

Place SOUTHERN TRADITION blocks as close to the front edge as possible
Course 4 – Southern Tradition Blocks

Check to make sure to place the correct size SOUTHERN TRADITION block as indicated on the drawing below and all following pages. It is CRITICAL to complete the courses correctly.

Existing Concrete Pad

Place SOUTHERN TRADTION blocks as close to the front edge as possible.
Course 5 – Southern Tradition Blocks

Check to make sure to place the correct size SOUTHERN TRADITION block as indicated on the drawing below and all following pages. It is CRITICAL to complete the courses correctly.

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Course 6 – Southern Tradition Blocks  Building the Hearth

Check to make sure to place the correct size SOUTHERN TRADITION block as indicated on the drawing below and all following pages. It is CRITICAL to complete the courses correctly.
Course 7 – Southern Tradition Blocks  Building the firebox opening

Check to make sure to place the correct size SOUTHERN TRADITION block as indicated on the drawing below and all following pages. It is CRITICAL to complete the courses correctly.

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Course 8 – Southern Tradition Blocks

Check to make sure to place the correct size SOUTHERN TRADITION block as indicated on the drawing below and all following pages. It is CRITICAL to complete the courses correctly.
Course 9 – Southern Tradition Blocks

Check to make sure to place the correct size SOUTHERN TRADITION block as indicated on the drawing below and all following pages. It is CRITICAL to complete the courses correctly.
Course 10 – Southern Tradition Blocks

Check to make sure to place the correct size SOUTHERN TRADITION block as indicated on the drawing below and all following pages. It is CRITICAL to complete the courses correctly.
Course 11 – Southern Tradition Blocks

Check to make sure to place the correct size SOUTHERN TRADITION block as indicated on the drawing below and all following pages. It is CRITICAL to complete the courses correctly.
Course 12 – Southern Tradition Blocks

Check to make sure to place the correct size SOUTHERN TRADITION block as indicated on the drawing below and all following pages. It is CRITICAL to complete the courses correctly.
Course 13 – Southern Tradition Blocks  Setting the lintel support blocks and lintel

Check to make sure to place the correct size SOUTHERN TRADITION block as indicated on the drawing below and all following pages. It is CRITICAL to complete the courses correctly.

**POSITION OF THE FIREBOX FROM DRAWING B**

Notched 4 x 8 x 16

Adhesive caulk

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Course 14 – Southern Tradition Blocks

Enclosing the firebox

Position of the firebox from Drawing B

Place SOUTHERN TRADITION blocks as close to the front edge as possible
Course 15 – Southern Tradition Blocks

Taper begins on the back side of course

Course 14

Position of the firebox from Drawing: B

Place SOUTHERN TRADITION blocks as close to the front edge as possible

Adhesive caulk

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Course 16 – Southern Tradition Blocks

Taper begins on the front side of course

POSITION OF THE FIREBOX FROM DRAWING B
Course 17 – Southern Tradition Blocks

Course 16

4 x 8 x 16
4 x 8 x 16
4 x 8 x 12
4 x 8 x 16

4 x 8 x 16
4 x 8 x 12

POSITION OF THE FIREBOX FROM DRAWING B

4 x 8 x 16
4 x 8 x 12

Adhesive Caulk

4 x 8 x 16
4 x 8 x 16
4 x 8 x 12
4 x 8 x 16

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Course 18 – Southern Tradition Blocks

Building the Mantle

Course 17

POSITION OF THE 24x24 FLUE EXTENSIONS

Adhesive caulk
Course 19 - Southern Tradition Blocks

Taper continues on the firebox throat

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**Course 20 – Southern Tradition Blocks**

Taper continues on the firebox throat

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**Course 19**

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**POSITION OF THE 24x24 FLUE EXTENSIONS**
Course 21 – Southern Tradition Blocks

Taper continues on the firebox throat
Course 22 – Southern Tradition Blocks

Building the Chimney

Course 21

POSITION OF THE 24x24 FLUE EXTENSIONS

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Course 23 – Southern Tradition Blocks
Course 24 – Southern Tradition Blocks

POSITION OF THE 24x24 FLUE EXTENSIONS

4 x 8 x 16

4 x 8 x 16

4 x 8 x 16

4 x 8 x 16

4 x 8 x 16

4 x 8 x 16

4 x 8 x 16

4 x 8 x 16

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Course 25 – Southern Tradition Blocks

POSITION OF THE 24x24 FLUE EXTENSIONS

Adhesive caulk
Course 27 - Southern Tradition Blocks

Adhesive caulk

POSITION OF THE 24x24 FLUE EXTENSIONS

4 x 8 x 16

4 x 8 x 16

4 x 8 x 16

4 x 8 x 16

4 x 8 x 16

4 x 8 x 16

4 x 8 x 16
Course 28 – Southern Tradition Blocks

Crown of the chimney (overhang)

POSITION OF THE 24x24
FLUE EXTENSIONS

Adhesive Caulk