

How to start a wood-stove fire

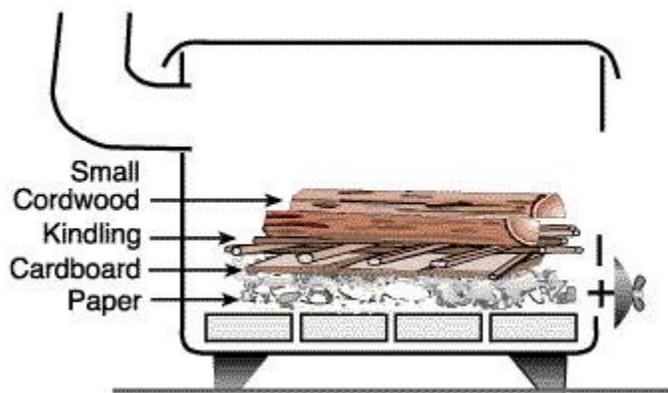
Diligent wood-stove operators have all the necessary fire-starting materials readily available at the stove site. These materials include newspaper, 2-inch cardboard strips, kindling, small pieces of cordwood, and matches.

Open damper on the stovepipe in the sauna (straight up and down) see pictures on p.2 a.

Separate four or five full pieces of newspaper. Bunch and compress some newspapers and lay them on the bed of the fire box just in front of the door. Lay a few 2-inch strips of cardboard on top of the newspaper and place several pieces of small kindling wood or dry bark on top of the cardboard. Finally, place one or two small pieces of cordwood split to about a 2-inch diameter on top of the pile.

After the cordwood pieces have ignited and burned for several minutes, add one or two larger pieces of wood. It's a good idea to turn and bunch the burning debris together before adding the larger pieces. Keep the air vents open for several minutes or until the larger pieces are well-ignited. Then adjust the vents according to the desired heat output of the stove.

In terms of flammability, cardboard strips about 2 inches wide and 6 to 8 inches long are good materials. You can start most fires without cardboard, but if you have cardboard boxes around the house, this is a useful way to get rid of them. The cardboard cuts up easily if you use a bread knife with a serrated edge. Studies show cardboard probably produces a faster and more positive start up.



Layer materials to start a fire.

If the sauna is too hot, close the damper slightly. See pictures on p.2 c.

RentaSauna

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a: Full Heat



b: Shut down- little to no heat



c: To cool down

Optimal sauna temperature should be 150 to 190 degrees
Make sure stove has cooled completely before cleaning fire box