



# ETHAN ALLEN® FIRE TABLES FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**THESE ARE ANSWERS TO SOME OF THE MOST  
COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR FIRE TABLES.**

**FOR IN-DEPTH INFORMATION, REFER TO YOUR  
INSTALLATION AND OPERATION MANUAL, OR CONTACT  
A DESIGN CENTER.**

**BEFORE YOU PURCHASE, YOU MUST DECIDE ON PROPANE OR NATURAL GAS. ETHAN ALLEN CANNOT MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS. YOUR DECISION IS BASED ON GAS AND FUEL AVAILABILITY, AND PERSONAL PREFERENCE.**

## PRODUCT

### **What fuel types are available?**

Our fire tables can be connected to either a fuel line or a propane tank. We recommend that our products be inspected before installation, installed by, and serviced annually by qualified professionals who are locally licensed by the authority having jurisdiction in gas piping.

If you prefer to connect your fire table to a propane tank, we also offer a propane tank enclosure (409503). Available in the same material as our fire tables, these covers provide a discreet concrete encasement for your propane tank. The flat surface of the cover may additionally serve as an end table to complement your outdoor seating and display areas, so long as you leave the recommended clearance between the tank enclosure and your fire table, you ensure that the enclosure ventilation openings remain clear, and you keep the enclosure oriented so that the hose does not pose a trip hazard. See your installation and operation manual for details.

## INSTALLATION

### **Should I install my fire table myself?**

No. We recommend that a certified gas technician install all of our units. If there are any issues pertaining to the burner or gas line, a certified technician should complete the service work in order to comply with local installation and service codes.

### **Can my fire table be placed either on a deck or under a pergola or covered patio?**

Yes, as long as the proper clearances from overhead structures and other solid structures or buildings are maintained. For installation on a deck or any other combustible surface, a deck insulation kit is required—it's included with your fire table should you need to use it. The kit includes insulating material to protect your deck surface. See your installation and operation manual for clearances and for instructions on using the deck insulation kit.

### **How should I prepare the location where my fire table will be installed?**

Our fire tables are for outdoor use only. Pick a location that allows sufficient horizontal room to enjoy the fire table while maintaining a safe distance from the heat and flame, and where the fire table can be attended during operation. (Never leave an operating fire table unattended or attended by someone not familiar with its operation or emergency shutoff locations.) The surface should be level, with good drainage and convenient access to a fuel source.

If you're installing your fire table on a deck, make sure the deck insulation materials are placed on the surface before installing the fire table. See your installation and operation manual for more information.

# PROPER USE

## **How do I light my fire table?**

*For fire tables that connect to a fuel line–*

1. Slowly turn on the gas valve by inserting the chrome key into the chrome key hole and turning it counterclockwise.
2. Keeping one hand on the chrome key, use the other hand to place a long-handled lighter or lit match over the center of the fire table.
3. After the burner lights, remove the lighter or match. If the burner does not light, turn the chrome key valve off and repeat steps 1-3.
4. Turn the chrome key to adjust the flame to your desired height.
5. ***Remove the chrome key after use and store it in a safe place, out of reach of children.***

*For fire tables that connect to a propane tank–*

1. Ensure that the fire table's gas valve is in the OFF position by inserting the chrome key into the key hole and turning it clockwise.
2. Slowly open the gas valve on the propane tank.
3. Slowly turn on the fire table's gas valve by inserting the chrome key into the chrome key hole and turning it counterclockwise.
4. Keeping one hand on the chrome key, use the other hand to place a long-handled lighter or lit match over the center of the fire table.
5. After the burner lights, remove the lighter or match. If the burner does not light, turn the chrome key valve off and repeat steps 1-5.
6. Turn the chrome key to adjust the flame to your desired height.
7. ***Remove the chrome key after use and store it in a safe place, out of reach of children.***

## **Can I put my propane tank under or within the fire table?**

No. Our fire tables do not accommodate internally stored propane tanks for safety and technical reasons. See your installation and operation manual for more clearance information.

## **Can my fire table be used in the winter?**

Yes! Our fire tables are designed for year-round use, but it's important to keep them free of leaves and other debris, and it's important to keep them dry. We recommend purchasing a cover (409501 CVR or 409502 CVR) and placing it over your cooled fire table when the table is not in use.

## **Will the concrete stain?**

Possibly (a good reason never to place food or drinks around the ledge). Although our fire tables are resistant to stains from natural elements, any spills or accidents could result in the absorption of liquids due to the porous nature of concrete. Blot any stains or spills immediately. See the Care section of your installation and operation manual for our recommended steps on how to remove stains; you can also see the Troubleshooting section of this FAQ.

## **Should I put a sealer on the concrete fire table?**

No sealer is recommended. Our fire tables are created from 100% fiber-reinforced concrete and do not require any sealants or other additional protectants.

# SAFETY

## **Are Ethan Allen fire tables safe?**

Yes. All Ethan Allen fire tables are CSA certified to ANSI Z21.97 and CSA 2.41, and they are safe for outdoor use. The concrete shell will get warm to the touch, but not hot. Even so, young children and pets should always be supervised while in the area of the fire table, and clothing or other flammable materials and gases should not be placed on or near the concrete ledges surrounding your fire table.

## **Can I cook on my fire table?**

No. Our fire tables are intended for aesthetic purposes only. We do not recommend using our fire tables for any other purpose other than that for which they're intended.

## **What should I do if I smell gas?**

If you smell gas in the area of your fire table, shut off the gas to the appliance immediately. Extinguish any open flame. If the odor persists, leave the area immediately. After leaving the area, please call your gas supplier or fire department for assistance.

## **Can I use the fire table as a seating area?**

No. For your safety, do not use the ledge of your fire table as a seat or a chair. Wind and gusty conditions may affect the flame in an unpredictable manner.

## **Can I burn solid fuels or debris in my fire table?**

No. Solid fuels should not be burned in your fire table. The surface of your fire table should be clear of any leaves, sticks, wood, paper, clothing, food, or other flammable materials. In addition, any combustible materials, gasoline, or other flammable vapors and liquids should not be placed on or near the fire table.

## **What should I do if my fire table components have been under water?**

Do not use the appliance if any part has been submerged under water. Immediately call a qualified service technician to inspect the appliance and to replace any part of the control system and any gas control that has been under water.

## **What should I do if my lava rock and/or beach stone are wet?**

If lava rock and/or beach stones are wet, allow the fire table to burn freely for 45 minutes prior to coming within 15 feet of the fire table.

# TROUBLESHOOTING

## **A hairline crack has appeared in my fire table. Is this normal?**

Although it is very unusual for our fire tables to crack, if a hairline crack does appear, you should not be alarmed; this is a natural characteristic of concrete. Our fire tables are fiber reinforced, so cracks do not have the potential to grow or separate.

**I have a stain on my fire table. Can it be removed?**

It depends. Concrete can be cleaned with a mild soap and water solution. Never use abrasives or strong chemicals as they may further stain the surface. Clean spills immediately by carefully blotting them with a clean white towel. Be sure to blot the affected area and avoid wiping, as this may force the stain deeper into the surface of your fire table.

**The flame is creating black soot on some of my beach stones. What can I do to fix it?**

Soot is an inherent by-product of natural gas and propane; avoid placing rocks/stones directly above the flame. Soot can be removed by gently washing the stones in a mild soap and water mixture. Excessive soot may be caused by blockages to internal components. See the Troubleshooting section of your installation and operation manual for our recommended steps to address excessive soot.

**Why does my flame appear to be low?**

A reduction in your fire table's flame level may happen for various reasons. For fire tables that connect to a fuel line, low flame levels may be the result of improper gas pressure or an undersized gas supply line. We recommend that you seek assistance from a qualified professional who is locally licensed by the authority having jurisdiction in gas piping.

For units that connect to a propane tank, lower flame levels may be the result of improper lighting procedures. To address low flame levels, ensure that the fire table's gas valve is in the OFF position by inserting the chrome key into the key hole and turning it clockwise. Then, turn the tank on slowly to allow the pressure within to equalize before turning on the fire table's gas valve. If the flame level continues to be low, check the gas level of your liquid propane tank, check to see that your fire table burner holes are not blocked by stones or debris, and check that the supply hose is not pinched. If these steps do not correct the issue, we recommend that you seek assistance from a qualified professional who is locally licensed by the authority having jurisdiction in gas piping.

**Some beach stones appear to be turning a light pink/orange color. Is this normal?**

Yes. Deposits of magnesium and iron can be present in the beach stones. This coloration is a natural reaction to heat and is not considered a defect.

**Why is my fire table rocking or wobbling?**

The legs of our fire tables are installed directly into the frame and inspected to ensure they're of equal length. If your fire table is teetering or wobbling, please check to see that the installation surface is also level.