



The bio-ethanol Cairo captures the grandeur and majesty of the great Egyptian pyramids with its solid build and bold presence. www.designerfire.com.au

Wood is another ideal material. The Australian Home Heating Association states that wood heating emits less greenhouse gases than many other forms of home heating. Other benefits of wood heating include easy maintenance and cost savings. "Wood heating requires very little service besides cleaning of flues," says Joel Belnick, director of Jetmaster. "Wood heaters are able to heat large areas and are only limited by the size of the fire. It's also an economical form of heating compared to other fuel types."

Large areas can benefit from the heat a wood fire will generate, but a bio-ethanol fire is ideal for a smaller area. "As they don't require any flues, pipes, chimneys or utility connections, they are much quicker, easier and more affordable to install than their gas and electric counterparts," explains Dani. "Furthermore, without the need to chop wood, shovel ash or scrub debris, as with conventional fireplaces, there is very little maintenance required — perfect for a smaller space."

Finding the right heater for your home can be a perplexing task. There's an array of options out there — gas, wood, bio fuel and more, then you've got different varieties of the specific heating types within those brackets. Dani explains it's about finding what's right for you. "There are many types of bio-ethanol fireplaces available, including wall-mounted, floor-standing and smaller table-top units. Wall-mounted fireplaces are easy to install and can be taken with you if you move house, and free-standing models offer the ultimate flexibility and freedom, allowing you to shift them from one room to another with ease. For alfresco areas there are also outdoor fireplaces that are made from weather-resistant materials and have been designed to withstand the elements."

Joel agrees that choosing a fireplace is an important one and it's worth educating yourself before making a purchase. "When it

SMART FIRES

Eco-friendly heating options are growing in popularity and it's easy to see why

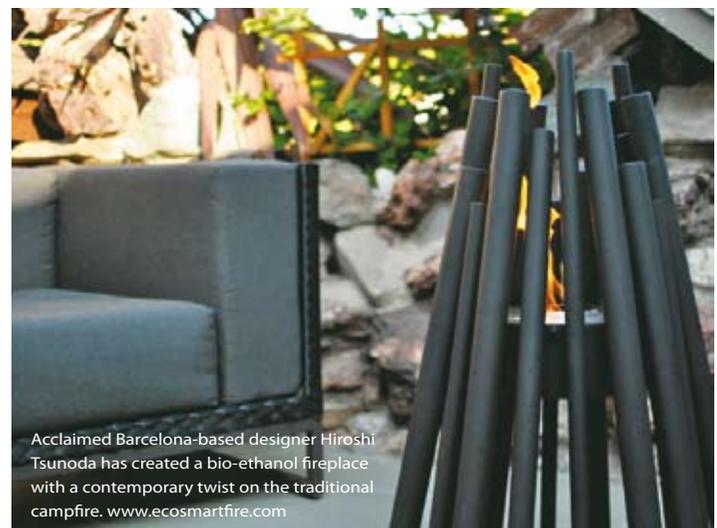
By Tatyana Leonov

We are seeing a strong trend towards eco-friendly fires. They are beneficial to the environment and also provide a cost saving to the consumer. Fires that burn ethanol or wood are great eco-friendly options that suit a range of lifestyles and living arrangements.

"Bio-ethanol is a neutral liquid fuel derived from renewable raw materials, such as sugarcane, potatoes and wheat," explains Dani Tan, general manager of Designer Fire. "It is clean burning, releases no harmful emissions or smoke, and its only by-products are water vapour and as little carbon dioxide as we exhale. In Australia bio-ethanol is commonly referred to as methylated spirits or denatured alcohol."



The stunning bio-ethanol Madrid is stylish and unique with its captivating profile and contemporary design. www.designerfire.com.au



Acclaimed Barcelona-based designer Hiroshi Tsunoda has created a bio-ethanol fireplace with a contemporary twist on the traditional campfire. www.ecosmartfire.com

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Heatmaster has produced the A Series Wood Fire that provides an alternative to the more traditional brick fireplace but with eight times more efficiency. www.heatmaster.com.au



Designed by Saville Isaacs architects, the Universal 850 open wood fire is designed not to smoke back into the room and offers brilliant radiant and convective heat. www.jetmaster.com.au

comes to wood heaters, slow-combustion freestanding fireplaces (generally steel or cast-iron fireboxes with a front glass door) are generally better at providing heat as they are completely exposed in the room," he says. "Open-fireplace convection heaters can also be built freestanding and these provide a radiant heat which ensures the room is heated well." ■



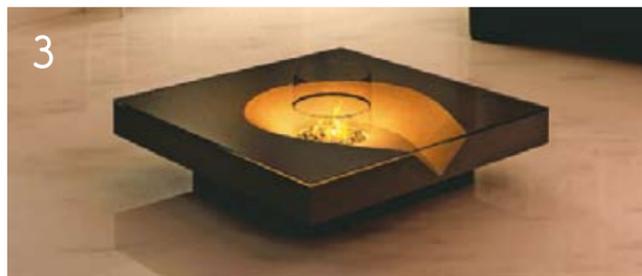
The Kemlan Super Nova freestanding wood heater is designed to heat up to 200 square meters. www.jetmaster.com.au

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FASHIONABLE

FIRE

As the months get cooler and chilly nights draw you indoors, heating becomes important. Choose a fireplace that works in your space and oozes with style

1 The fire in the role of its life: fiercely blazing, steady and yet quite free. **Conmoto's** Roll Fire (a 2010 Good Design Award winner) is a stylish piece for any home and provides warmth wherever it is installed. As it rolls, the appropriately named Roll Fire easily balances its stainless steel tank, mounted on its roller bearings. The two glass panes fitted at the sides render it completely transparent. (www.conmoto.com) **2** The clean and uninterrupted line is enhanced by the use of a clever removable handle in this C800L VE fireplace by **Chazelles**. Designed for installation into an existing fireplace, it's an ideal solution for heating large areas. The large glass door provides a perfect view of the fire within without compromising safety and energy efficiency. (www.chazelles.com.au) **3** The Hot Chocolate Fireplace by **Planika** is made from natural oak veneer and oozes warmth and comfort in its simplistic, yet distinctive design. The natural flames that arise from the centrally sited glass cylinder penetrate the teardrop-shaped opening, encapsulating that feeling of homely heat. (www.planikafires.com) **4** The Fire Coffee Table is a new **Planika** fireplace model designed by Arik Levy. The wide base and steel bars resemble a rosette, with the glass surface resting on the rosette and turning it into a unique coffee table. Using Glassfire® Technology, the distinctive fireplace is a perfect complement to any outdoor space. (www.planikafires.com) **5** Perfectly suited for homes with high ceilings due to the one-piece tall flat glass door, the **Chazelles** DH830 fireplace features Chazelles' unique dual-opening door system that allows you to enjoy the ambience of an open fire, or by sliding the door down, the unit reverts immediately to an efficient and safe slow-combustion wood fire. (www.chazelles.com.au) **6** Using ethanol as fuel, the **EcoSmart** Citi fireplace is sleek and slender. It does not require a chimney and more heat is kept in the room. The Citi fireplace is 90 per cent fuel efficient due to its competent combustion properties of denatured ethanol. Made from MDF timber and featuring a toughened glass screen, the Citi fireplace can heat a space of more than 20 square metres for more than six hours. (www.ecosmartfire.com)



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7 This stunning focal piece, the **Modus** 984 fireplace, features a mix of different metals and finishes resulting in a highly creative shape and form. The main body is made from corten steel which provides a rusted look, while the flue and fire bowls are made of sturdy stainless steel. You can use the body to sit on for immediate warmth or as an ornamental display. (www.modusfireplaces.com) 8 Offering all the ambience and beauty of an open fireplace, this **Jetmaster** 1050 Universal fireplace is designed to produce two-way convection and an extremely efficient radiant heat — perfect for those chilly nights in. It also features

a clip-on safety screen ensuring little fingers are kept away from the heat. (www.jetmaster.com.au) 9 Highly efficient and super-stylish, the **Real Flame** Captiva fireplace comes in two different models (600 and 900), both of which have impressive heating capacities. The choice of pebbles, coals or logs provides flexibility, allowing the homeowner the ability to design a fire to suit their personal space. (www.realflame.com.au) 10 The Geneva fireplace by **Designer Fire** is pure and timeless, capturing the essence of enduring style. The stainless-steel dual-layer burners have been TÜV-certified in Germany, which means they are incredibly safe to use. The fireplace also features safety glass and comes in either black or white. (www.designerfire.com.au) 11 The beautifully designed **Heatmaster** Enviro has ticked all the boxes when it comes to style and looking after the environment. The award-winning 4.6-star unit has a louvre-free and sleek rectangular shape that can heat up to a massive 250 square metres, then conserve its energy once the desired temperature is met. Choose from pebbles, logs or coals to suit your space. (www.heatmaster.com.au) 12 **Agnews** creates fireplaces that suit their surroundings, respecting room styles and features to achieve an ideal balance within a space. This stunning fireplace will sit confidently in its position, the grates fitted with the burner adding that distinct quality. (www.agnews.com.au)



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The Cascia is a vertical rectangular tubular chrome radiator that combines strong design with excellent performance. www.h20heating.com.au

HYDRONIC HEATING

Did you know that hydronic heating dates back as far as Roman times? This efficient, safe and comfortable heating method has been used by people for hundreds of years because it works. Here we chat to Nigel Hunt, managing director of H2O Heating, who has more than 20 years of experience in both designing and installing hydronic heating systems

What is hydronic heating? Hydronic heating is a method of heating the home through the use of hot water as opposed to forced warm air. Simply explained, a central hydronic boiler heats the water that is then circulated throughout the home using a network of pipes. These pipes are connected to an outlet in each room; an outlet can be a radiator panel, in-floor trench convactor, in-slab floor coil (under-floor heating) or a combination.

Hydronic heating has evolved into one of the most efficient, controllable and comfortable ways to heat the home. While hydronic heating systems use water to provide heat, the water within the system is constantly recycled and circulated through the system, with no demands on water usage.

Where can it be used?

With the numerous options available, hydronic heating can be used in new builds, renovations and in existing homes, although in these cases consideration must be given to how the pipe work will be installed, especially when a property has polished floorboards and plastered walls.

What kind of a system do you need?

There are essentially two types of hydronic heating systems: underfloor, where a series of floor coil circuits are laid in the concrete slab or secondary pour of the building; and panels where pipe work is run from a central boiler to each room. The two systems can also be combined.

What hydronic heating products are available?

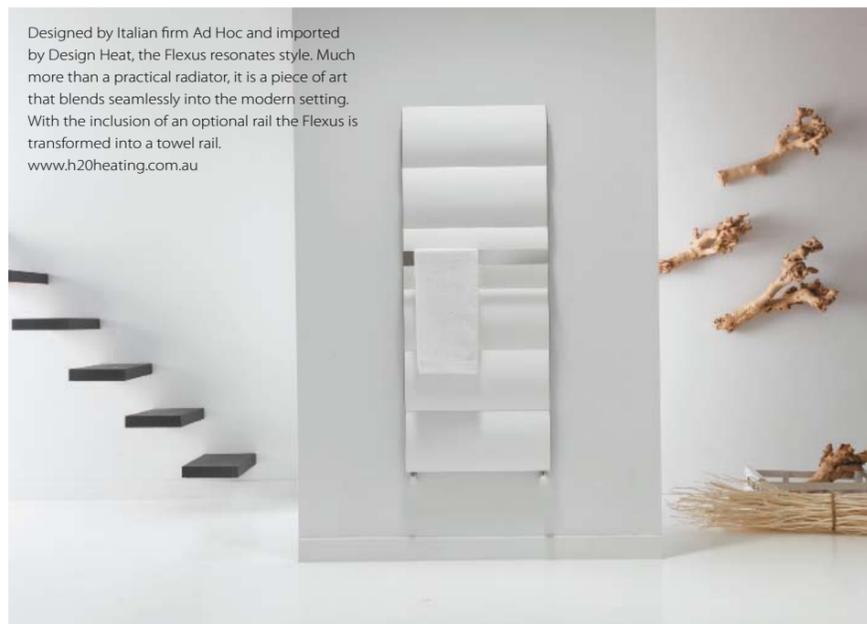
Boilers, radiators, designer radiator panels, towel rails and trench heating are the most common options.

Boilers: In all hydronic heating systems there is a central boiler which provides the heat (there are also boilers available that will provide the hot water for a property but due to constraints on water usage, these are advisable only for smaller properties). The gas boilers available have minimum efficiency ratings of 80 to 95 per cent efficiency (taken from UK Sedbuk test results).

Radiators: A radiator panel system is the most popular form of hydronic heating system and there is a wide range of panel options available, from standard steel-panel radiators to cast-iron panels reminiscent of a bygone era to innovative designer panels more like a work of art than a heating appliance. Growing in popularity is the flat-panel radiator that has a smooth fascia to provide a contemporary look.

Towel rails: By far the most popular product is the inclusion of a towel rail into a hydronic heating system. Again, there is now a wide selection of towel rails to choose from, including the classic ladder style and those making more of a style statement. Here, function and form are truly combined.

Designed by Italian firm Ad Hoc and imported by Design Heat, the Flexus resonates style. Much more than a practical radiator, it is a piece of art that blends seamlessly into the modern setting. With the inclusion of an optional rail the Flexus is transformed into a towel rail. www.h20heating.com.au



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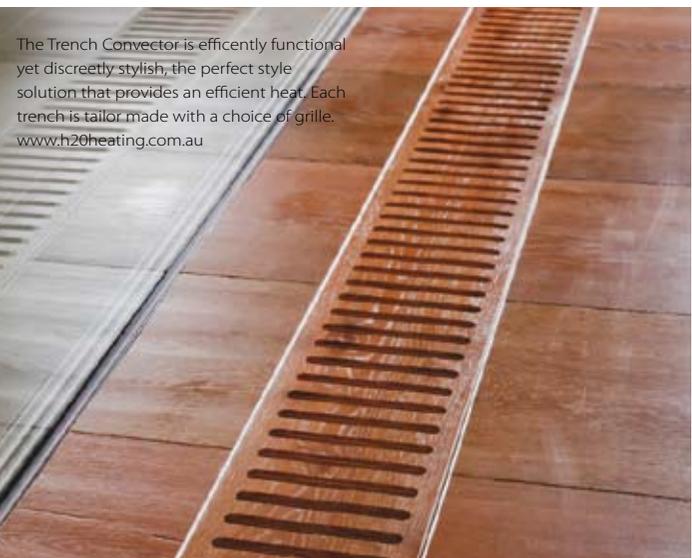
Flat O is a dramatic and interesting radiator with a steel fascia stylised by a dramatic row of holes to create an industrial contemporary look. It's manufactured in Italy by Antrax It and imported into Australia by Design Heat. www.h20heating.com.au

The Moon radiator can be turned into a towel rail with the addition of a chrome bar, Saturn's ring. The Moon can be installed solo as a simple statement or combined in a variety of options to create a relaxing, yet highly sculptural centrepiece. Manufactured in Italy by Antrax It and imported into Australia by Design Heat. www.h20heating.com.au



BENEFITS OF HYDRONIC HEATING

1. It's quiet. In fact, hydronic heating is a naturally silent radiated heat (no noisy fans or squeaky heaters with constant blowing air).
2. It's a healthier option. Hydronic heating has long been recognised for its benefits over a ducted-forced draft system because it doesn't force air around the home, thereby eliminating the dust, humidity and dryness that can come with a fan-forced heating system.
3. Hydronic heating is versatile. It suits all types of properties and can be fitted to existing and new homes. If you feel you need more heating (or less), hydronic heating is a flexible option because adding radiators and convectors is quite simple, providing there is adequate boiler capacity.
4. Hydronic heating allows for individual rooms or zones to be heated independently so running costs are lowered and this provides the ability to control the heat requirements of each individual room to suit your family's needs.
5. Water is used to provide heat in hydronic heating systems and the water is constantly recycled and circulated through the system. This means that apart from requiring a small amount of water to top up the system at yearly services, the demands on water usage are very low.
6. Today's hydronic heating outlet options come in a diverse selection of styles, ranging from cast-iron panels to innovative cutting-edge designer panels. Alternatively, you can choose to have the panels with floor trench convectors or an in-slab floor coil system — select the look that will suit your home.
7. Maintenance levels can be low. If you choose a system with high-quality manufacturing and a long-term warranty, you can be confident your system will provide reliable heat for many years.
8. Today's systems are full of technological features that not only increase their efficiency, but make them reliable, safe and cost-effective to run.



The Trench Convector is efficiently functional yet discreetly stylish, the perfect style solution that provides an efficient heat. Each trench is tailor made with a choice of grille. www.h20heating.com.au