

# Living in comfort

Natural gas ensures your comfort and enjoyment of time spent with your family. A shower that never runs out of hot water, a range that cooks all your dishes to perfection, a constant, pleasant ambient temperature... natural gas is the energy for true comfort, and for the round-the-clock pleasure of being at home.





## A high-energy efficient heating system: well worth the cost!

Modern, high performance, reliable and efficient, natural gas warm air heating systems are state of the art. Super-efficient, they ensure unequalled comfort by equalizing the temperature in every room of the home. As well, the ENERGY STAR® certified appliances can help you achieve significant energy savings.

#### **Discovering comfort**

Two highly rated warm air systems:

#### Warm air furnace

- · Warms the home faster than any other system.
- Does not dry the air and provides constant warmth in all the rooms.
- Filters the ambient air by eliminating airborne dust.
- Offers an opportunity to integrate central air conditioning, an air purifier and/or humidifier.

#### Natural gas combo system

- Provides hot water and heating with only one appliance.
- Allows integrating an air conditioning unit as well as a humidifier.
- Offers greater layout flexibility due to its small size and because there are no baseboard heaters or radiators.
- Ensures the same air quality as a furnace or boiler.

#### **Smart thermostat**

Designed to optimize your comfort and peace of mind, a smart thermostat is an efficient way to better regulate your energy consumption.

### Advantages of a smart thermostat

Easy to use, smart thermostats adapt to the lifestyle of the occupants, offering flexibility, comfort and savings.



# Hot water now, please!

There's nothing better than a good hot shower for relaxing! With a storage water heater, heat is recovered twice as fast as with an electric water heater, which assures you of hot water at all times! And if your space is limited, don't worry – you can opt for an ultracompact tankless water heater.

## Discover the advantages of a natural gas tankless water heater

Instead of heating and keeping water hot in a large tank, the tankless water heater only heats the water needed, which leads to significant energy savings. Since there is no tank, it takes up very little space. Some water heaters measure as little as  $61 \text{ cm} \times 75 \text{ cm} \times 15 \text{ cm} (24 \times 30 \times 6 \text{ in})$ . Extremely compact, it can be installed almost anywhere in your home or condo.

It provides abundant hot water in continuous mode. The system can produce up 39 litres (8.5 gallons)

of hot water a minute – enough to take a bath, a shower, or run a dishwasher simultaneously! The energy efficiency of a natural gas water heater generates energy savings that can reach 35%, compared with a traditional water heater.

The tankless water heater has a service life twice as long as tank water heaters and offers unequalled peace of mind – no tank – no water leaks!





## **Heated floors**

#### Warmth to the tips of your toes

Walking about the home in bare feet is one of summer's pleasures. The luckiest can do so in winter as well, thanks to heated floors. Here's how you can do this year-round.

Ceramic, concrete, wood – no matter what the material, underfloor heating diffuses a pleasant and constant warmth over the whole surface.

The technology is simple: flexible piping supplied with low temperature warm water is installed at regular intervals under the floor, diffusing warmth to people and objects through the principle of radiation. That is why it is called "radiant" or "radiation" or "hydronic" flooring.



#### Nothing but advantages

Not only do heated floors offer superior comfort, they are also economical. In fact, the concrete slab's inertia helps conserve heat so well that the thermostat can be set 2-3°C lower than with a conventional heating system, while giving the same sensation of warmth. Each degree gained reduces the energy bill.



Do you like to cook? Then consider cooking with natural gas. For performance and esthetic reasons, natural gas is a popular choice.

#### 5 Reasons to choose this type of range for the home



#### Faster cooking

Natural gas is often the energy preferred by professionals for cooking since heat is generated instantaneously.





#### Precise cooking

The desired temperature is reached in minutes. Cooking with natural gas is highly regarded by top chefs for the precision of the flame. Heat is controlled better – you can adjust a very high flame to a very low flame in seconds!



### Keep your pots and pans

If you decide to opt for a natural gas range, don't get rid of your pots and pans! Natural gas ranges are compatible with all kinds of kitchenware, even earthenware casseroles.



### Wide choice of modern range designs

Whether you like a modern or a somewhat retro look, you can find a natural gas range that matches your style. This type of range, with its simple and timeless design, fits harmoniously into every kitchen.



#### Reliable cooking

There's an electricity outage? No problem! You can still use your natural gas range.



Preparing meals in a wellorganized kitchen helps you gain time!

## 4 Tips for making your kitchen more functional

Making a kitchen more functional can be easy if you know what to do it and how to do it! Some appropriate measures and a few beneficial changes can make a huge difference in improving your kitchen's efficiency. Here are four tips to guide you to this goal.





#### Eliminate unnecessary decorations

A kitchen needs to be thought of as a work space – everything within arm's reach should be useable. Of course, some stylish objects may enhance the space. However, decorative elements in a kitchen must be useful and functional. For example, if a fancy pepper mill is on display, it must be useable and practical, as well as adding a decorative touch.



#### Plan sufficient and adjustable lighting

Each task in a kitchen requires specific lighting. For example, cleaning requires more light than breakfast at the counter or an intimate supper. Insufficient lighting is a common defect in many kitchens. Adding some lamps is one way of eliminating dim areas. The placement of lamps is also important, since poorly directed or badly positioned lighting can blind us or create shade on our work surface.



#### Add sufficient storage

There's no need to enlarge the kitchen to maximize storage space. First, the use of specially designed kitchen cabinet accessories, such as a knife block, a rack for saucepan lids, even a dishcloth holder, can help organize storage better while hiding those items from view – and finding them easily when needed. Secondly, shelving can also be more efficient. Of course, not all the kitchen cabinets need to be open. However, installing decorative shelves on which everyday dishes can be placed can help us be more efficient. Imagine the time saved when emptying the dishwasher!



#### Reorganize the kitchen into zones

An excellent way of making a kitchen functional is to divide it into zones. Among other things, this means that more than one person can be there at the same time without stepping on the other's toes. The zones can be based on the tasks to be accomplished in the kitchen – cleaning, tidying up, preparing, cooking, eating, or entertaining. While more than one activity can be done in the same zone, zoning does help structure the space better.



Enjoying beautiful weather surrounded by family and friends in the garden is a pleasure that never tires. Put on your swimsuits, dive into the pool, roll out the BBQ – and have a great summer!

A natural gas pool heater warms your water 10 times faster than models using a different energy. Two days to wait for 4 more degrees? Never again! The pool is open when you want it.

- Save money and energy by purchasing a timer to reduce the time the pump and water heater are in operation.
- Use a solar blanket the sun heats the water, thus reducing the operating time of the pool heater and your energy consumption.





The word barbecue comes from the Mexican barbacoa (1518), which means a meat smoker and grill. But the origin of the word is also associated with the language of the buccaneers who roasted goats on a spit – de la barbe à la queue (from head to tail).

#### Goodbye propane cylinders!

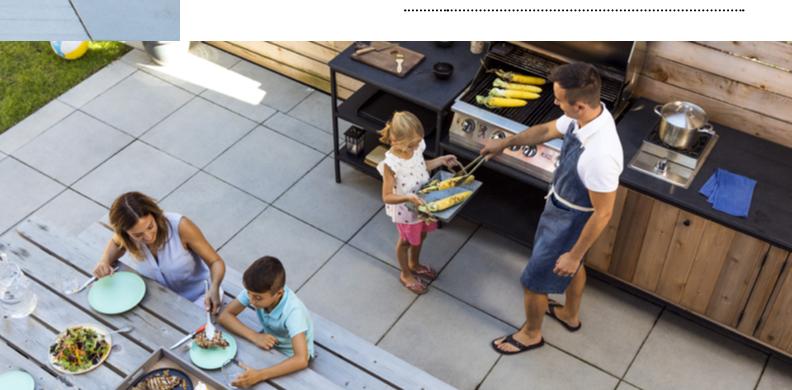
Whether on the terrace or patio, a natural gas BBQ is supplied by a pipe connected to an outlet on an outside wall. Thanks to this simple connection and the flexible pipe (about 3 metres long), you can easily connect and disconnect your BBQ to move or store it any time you want!

#### Purchase and operation of the perfect BBQ

If you frequently grill for more than four people, then a BBQ that produces 40,000 Btu/h or more, with a cooking surface of at least 0.3 m<sup>2</sup> (400 in<sup>2</sup>), is ideal.

A BBQ with two burners gives the best control over the heat, facilitating indirect cooking as well as grilling several foods at different temperatures.

Grills in cast iron or stainless steel are recommended since they maintain heat longer.





# The fireplace of your dreams, without all the complications

Enjoy an intimate and warm ambiance while avoiding the purchase, storage, and the dirt of wood and ashes. With combustion efficiency superior to that of wood, a natural gas fireplace is a more energy efficient solution than a wood fire. And it still works when there's an electricity outage!



Here are five tips for showcasing your fireplace and enjoying a comforting and relaxing ambience.



#### Clear the mantel

Declutter the mantel, removing unnecessary objects. One or two decorative items are often sufficient. The goal is to not to steal the show away from the fireplace, since too many visual elements can adversely affect relaxation.



#### Use natural materials

There are several kinds of mantel finishes on the market. Natural materials, such as stone, travertine, slate, etc., are stylish without being flashy. Ceramic can also be very nice, but it is not as timelessly elegant as natural materials.



#### Leave some space

To spotlight, appreciate, and take full advantage of this decorative feature, the furniture positioning should not detract from its importance. It's best not to overfill the surrounding space with too much furniture or too many accessories.



#### Create a focal point

Since a fireplace is a central element in any interior layout, it is important to direct attention to it. One of the ways to do this is to create a visual contrast between the surrounding walls and the mantel, or to illuminate the fireplace with recessed lighting. Such tactics help produce a focal point, attracting the eye.





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#### Create a soothing space

Symmetrical positioning, often used when planning a layout, is a design principle that creates visual comfort, inducing calm and serenity. Harmonizing materials and surrounding colours also fosters well-being. Saturated colours obviously have no place in a relaxation zone, so opt for toned-down and washed-out colours.

When all these tips are followed, you only need to light the fire and enjoy the moment!



Recent natural gas appliances are beating all records for high performance and efficiency. To benefit over the long term, it is important to maintain them regularly – just like your car!

Just like your car, maintaining your electric or natural gas household appliances (boiler, warm air system, water heater, range, fireplace) helps prevent breakdowns and extends the service life of your equipment.

While the periodic full inspection of natural gas systems must be done by a professional who has a certificate in gas appliance techniques, you can do some simple maintenance tasks yourself

on your warm air system, your water heater tank and your range. Don't hesitate to have some of these simple steps explained to you by a professional during the installation or replacement of an appliance, for example, or during its first maintenance. And it's always useful to refer to the instructions in the manufacturers' installation and operating manuals, as they are the only ones authorized to inform you about the maintenance that suits their system. If you have the slightest doubt, call a maintenance professional, who will be pleased to help you.

#### Did you know that a clean filter helps your heating appliance work better?



Because air circulates in your warm air furnace, also called a warm air heating system, a lot of the dust and particles that accumulate are collected by the system's air filter. The cleaner the filter, the better. It is therefore recommended that you regularly check the level of dust accumulation, for example, before, during, and after the heating season and, if applicable, the airconditioning season, that is, about every three months. If the filter is clogged, you will need to either clean or replace it.

The filter can usually be found inside the system, in the fan door, or between the fan and the air return duct. If it is made of paper, it is disposable and can be replaced by a model of the same size, sold in bigbox stores, renovation centres, or by equipment dealers and installers. If it is made of mineral wool or polymer, it can be cleaned – simply vacuum and then wash in water. Wait until it is dry before replacing it in the right direction, since the filter has one correct way – the direction of the air – as indicated by the small arrows on the filter showing the flow direction! In case you have a different kind of filter from those mentioned, refer to the manufacturer's guide, which will help you locate the filter, learn how and how often to clean it, and determine the installation direction.



# A safe choice

- Unlike fuel oil or propane, natural gas does not need a tank – it is supplied directly to homes through an underground distribution system.
- The Énergir distribution system is among the most recent and safest in North America:
  - Our expert teams are responsible for the integrity and preventive maintenance program
  - Surveillance 24/7/365
- Natural gas is lighter than air, so if it does escape, it does not accumulate on the ground like propane – it simply rises into the atmosphere.
- To permit rapid detection, an odorant is added to natural gas which smells of rotten eggs.
- Natural gas is neither toxic or corrosive.

## Quiz









#### Why does Énergir encourage energy efficiency?

The best energy is the one we don't consume. That's why Énergir has introduced several measures and programs to help its customers consume less – and better. Efficient natural gas is an ally of sustainable development.

#### How is natural gas delivered?

A continuous supply of natural gas is delivered by an underground network of pipelines. Énergir distributes natural gas from supply hubs in Western Canada and Southern Ontario.

#### What is renewable natural gas?

Renewable natural gas is natural gas that comes from a renewable source: food waste. This renewable, natural gas is produced locally and can be injected into the natural gas network to heat buildings or be used as a fuel.

#### Is natural gas more expensive than electricity?

No, energy costs are similar in the residential sector. When you install high-energy efficient appliances, you reduce your energy consumption, which means that there is no significant difference in consumption costs compared with electricity.

#### What can I do if I'm not ready to change my household appliances?

You can continue to use them. However, for economic reasons, it is recommended that you plan your supply inlets during the construction of your home. Then, when the time comes, you can connect an ultra-efficient dryer, a range worthy of a great chef, and the BBQ of your dreams in no time flat!