

12 HOME

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BIOETHANOL FIREPLACES

- Burn methylated spirits and produce steam
- Cheaper to run
- Easier to install and use
- Safer than traditional wood or gas fireplaces
- Warms a home but doesn't provide a really hot heat

# TURN UP THE HEAT IN STYLE

A BRACKET and three screws - that's all it can take to have a fireplace on your wall with the latest in bioethanol fireplaces.

Ambience Eco Fires owner Kirsten Buckett said the past 12 months had seen a spike of interest in the Brisbane market. "This product is not a new concept at all, but a lot of people just haven't heard of them before and now awareness is growing," she said.

"When we first started selling bioethanol fireplaces in 2010 they were quite popular in Sydney and Melbourne but Brisbanites didn't have a huge appetite for them.

"Lots of people love fireplaces and they want to have a fireplace in their home, but it isn't necessarily practical in Brisbane due to our warmer climate.

"The bioethanol fireplace is the perfect alternative because while it warms a home, it doesn't provide a really hot heat."

The fireplaces are created by German designer Michael Rosing, who intended them to be like a piece of furniture for a room, with some sculpted like a work of art.

The bioethanol fireplaces, which burn methylated spirits and produce steam, are also easier to install and use, are cheaper to run, and are safer than traditional wood or gas fireplaces.

Ms Buckett said people were choosing bioethanol fireplaces during renovations.

"If you want to put a

traditional fireplace into an existing home, you have to install a chimney and flue, which is very invasive and expensive, but in comparison a bioethanol fireplace is so easy to install," she said.

"You don't need a gas fitting, you don't need a builder, you don't need any tradespeople to do it - you just need a bracket and three screws put into the wall and you can hang it, fill up the fuel tank and light it.

"It's just like mounting a flat screen television to the wall."

The cost of the Radius Design bioethanol fireplaces depends on the size of the unit, burner capacity and finish but most are priced from \$2000 to \$3000, however, Ms Buckett said it only cost a few dollars worth of fuel to heat a room for the evening.



WINTER WARMERS: Ambience Eco Fires bioethanol fireplaces do not need a gas fitting and are easy to install anywhere in the home.

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- Eco Fires owner Kirsten Buckett



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