



BLACK AND STONE VIOFLAME VFC2100RWG

Features:

- Designer fireplace that combines gloss white and stainless steel
- Suitable for interior or covered exterior space
- Extra-large, 5-litre stainless-steel burner
- Fuelled by ethanol
- Flue-less and fully portable

**\$1 199, from Black and Stone,
www.blackandstone.com.au,
 phone: 1300 089 001**

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cal with high star ratings of 5.9 stars," says Ossie Symons, Rheem's national manager for climate systems.

"Gas fireplaces and other types of heating products have lower star ratings."

The move towards eco-friendly heating systems has seen log fires fall out of favour in the last decade or so, mainly because they contribute to Perth's winter air pollution.

"Over the last 10 years, environmental awareness has changed consumers' perception of natural flame products such as wood stoves and open fires," says Chris de Florac.

"While still popular, they are becoming increasingly difficult to install and operate due to tighter environmental regulations and local council requirements."

The most eco-friendly fireplaces are those that run on a biofuel such as ethanol. Derived from plants, ethanol is a clean and environmentally friendly fuel that creates an aesthetic flame and burns for a long time.

"In our experience, ethanol fireplaces are becoming increasingly popular," says Stephane

Thomas, one of the founders of The Fire Company, which designs and manufactures EcoSmart Fires and Blu Box Fireplaces.

"The technology has been around for about 30 years – people still use spirit stoves to go camping – but it's the packaging and the appearance of it that makes it different.

"The fact that there's no need for a chimney, no need for a complicated gas or electricity connection, means there's no mess, no fuss. Plus the versatility is fantastic."

Lisa Amphlett



NOIROT EVOLUTION

Features:

- Electric convector heater
- Available in medium, tall, low and skirting models
- Variety of heat outputs
- Styled to fit any room
- Energy-efficient operation

**Priced from \$499, from major electrical
 retailers. Visit www.noirotr.com.au or
 phone: 1300 664 768**