

## 4. CLEARANCES FOR CERTIFIED APPLIANCES

### 4.2 Front Clearance

While side and rear clearances vary considerably, front clearances are the same for all certified appliances. A clear space of 1200 mm (48") is required in front of the loading door of any wood burning appliance to allow room for tending the fire and maintaining the system.

### 4.3 Floor Protection

Appliance test standards have evolved considerably they were first developed in the 1970s. Originally, the laboratory test stand assembly called for floor temperature measuring sensors to be located under an 8 mm ( $\frac{3}{8}$ ") floor pad. As a result, certified appliances had label instructions calling for a non-combustible floor pad at least 8 mm ( $\frac{3}{8}$ ") thick. The second edition of the space heater test standard (S627-1981) eliminated the floor pad in the test stand. Appliances tested after that date were not permitted to overheat the unprotected floor.

When fired at its maximum rate, an appliance must not cause the floor temperature to exceed 90°C. Some appliance labels, however, continue to call for an 8 mm ( $\frac{3}{8}$ ") floor pad. It is likely that in the future, appliance labels

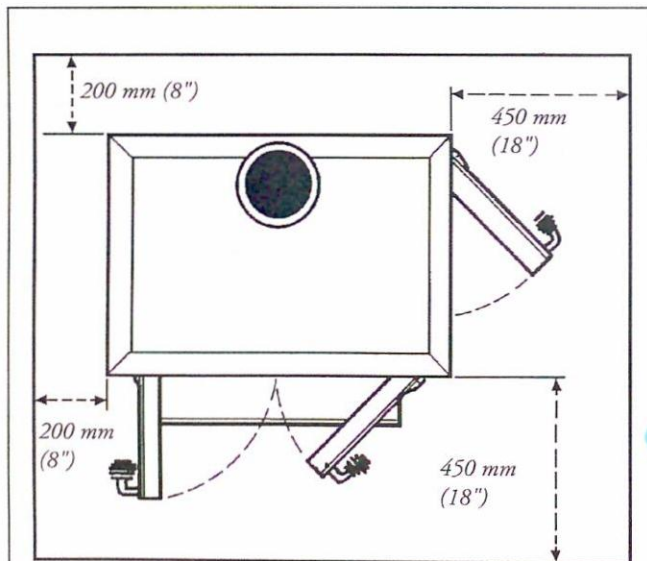
will specify only a continuous, non-combustible surface, but until then, you should always follow the instructions provided on the label.

The floor pad extensions for certified appliances are usually 450 mm (18") beyond any side having a loading door and 200 mm (8") beyond the other sides and rear. These are the same dimensions required for uncertified appliances. Some labels, however, call for floor pad extensions of 400 mm (16") beyond sides with loading doors and 150 mm (6") beyond the other sides and rear.

### 4.4 Top Clearance

The temperatures reached on the ceiling of the laboratory test enclosure are measured during testing. Of course, the ceiling temperature must not exceed 90°C. Some certification agencies publish top clearances on appliance labels and others do not.

Unless the appliance is to be installed in an alcove, or is mounted on a raised platform, ceilings rarely need shielding from radiation emitted from the top of an appliance. If no top clearance is specified on the appliance label, you can use the clearance for uncertified appliances: 1500 mm (60"). As an alternative, you can use the difference between the height of the appliance and the height of the enclosure in which the appliance was tested. The test enclosure specified in ULC S627 is 2.1 m (82", or just under 7') from the floor. If an appliance is 750 mm (30") tall and is to be installed in a room with a 2.46 m (8') ceiling, it could be installed on a raised hearth up to 350 mm (14") in height without violating the top clearance distance.



#### FLOOR PAD DIMENSIONS

*If an appliance has two loading doors, the floor pad must extend 450 mm (18") beyond both sides with doors. A top loading appliance needs a floor pad extending only 200 mm (8") beyond each side, although a 450 mm (18") extension is recommended on the side normally used for loading and servicing.*

6'-10"