

IKI

Instructions for installation and use



Installation instructions

Pillar IKI 4,5 kW
Pillar IKI 6,6 kW
Pillar IKI 9 kW
Pillar IKI 10 kW
Pillar IKI 10,5 kW



01/2026

This instruction manual is intended for the sauna owner or the person in charge of caring for the operation of the sauna, as well as for the electrician who installs the heater. When the installation is complete these instructions must be given to the owner or the person caring for the sauna. The sauna heater is intended for the sole purpose of heating the sauna room to a temperature appropriate for bathing. Its use for any other purpose is prohibited. Indoor use only.

Before you begin installing the heater, pay attention to the following points:

- Beware of the sharp edges of the stainless-steel mesh. Use a long-sleeved shirt and protective gloves during the installation.
- Read through this installation manual before you begin the installation of the heater.
- The warranty does not cover defects caused by faulty installation or misuse of the heater.



SANTA'S OFFICIAL SAUNA HEATER

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www.ikikiuas.com/instructions

Contact information

Technical support
+358 40 196 4567
tuki@ikikiuas.fi

IKI-Kiuas Oy
Hakaniemenkatu 11
00530 Helsinki
ikikiuas@ikikiuas.fi

Production / Pieksämäki
Niilontie 10
76150 Pieksämäki
tuotanto@ikikiuas.fi

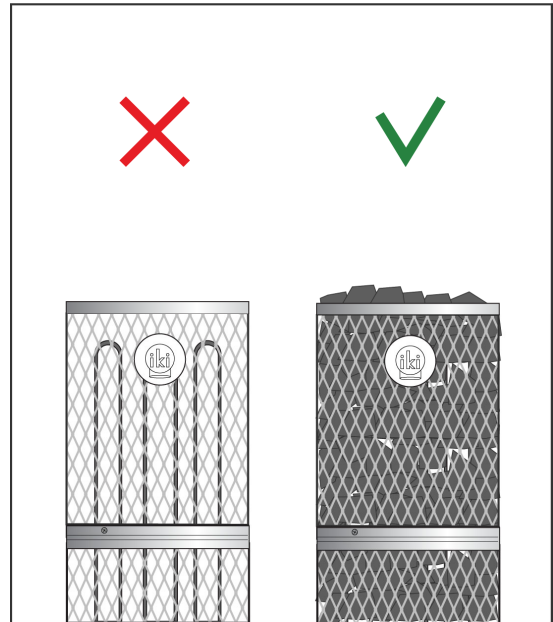
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Warnings

Do not operate heater without stones or if the stones have been piled incorrectly so that the heating elements are visible. Wrong piling of stones cause a fire hazard!

- Keep away from the heater when it's hot. The stones and outer surface of the heater may burn.
- Prevent children from getting close to the heater.
- Do not leave children, handicapped or ill people to use the sauna without supervision.
- Consult child welfare clinic about taking little babies to the sauna.
- Never go to a hot sauna under the influence of alcohol, medication or narcotics.
- Never sleep in a hot sauna.
- Sea-air and a humid climate may corrode the metal surfaces of the heater.
- Do not hang clothes to dry in the sauna, as this may cause a risk of fire. Excessive moisture content may also cause damage to the electrical equipment.



Prior to installation

Before you begin installing the heater, pay attention to the following points in the heater:

- **Beware of the sharp edges of the stainless-steel mesh. Use a long-sleeved shirt and protective gloves during the installation and once taking the heater out of the cardboard box.**
- **Read through this installation manual and the separate control unit manual before you begin the installation of the heater.**
- **ATTN! This manual must be left with owner, manager or operator of the Sauna after it is tested/used by electrician.**
- **The heater volume should be suitable for the sauna room volume. Model table shows the recommended heater power output.**
- **A precondition for the given values is that the sauna room is well insulated. Walls and ceiling are covered with wood panel.**
- **Check that supply voltage and amperages are available for the heater in the building and main power supply.**
- **The breakers and the connection cables conform with valid regulations, and their dimensions are in accordance with regulations.**
- **The location is suitable for the heater (Safety distances)**

Attn! Do not insulate the space between the heater and the wall.

Electrical installation work must only be performed by a licensed electrician in full compliance with current regulations.

Installation of the heater

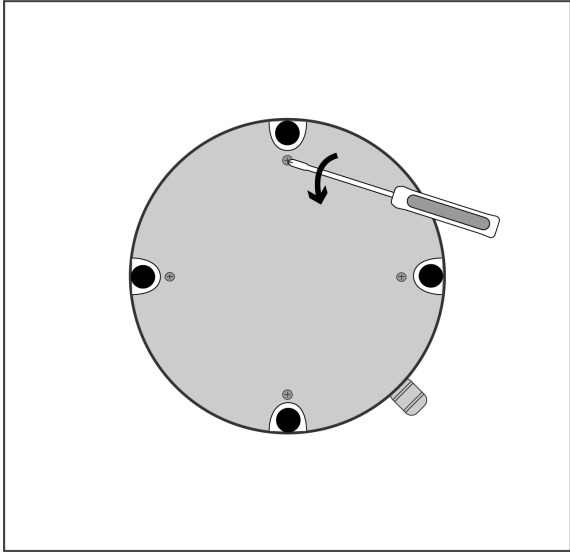
1. Choose the place for the heater according to the required safety distances. The installation must be carried out in the place where the heater will be situated. The safety distances for Electric IKI are measured from the heater's mesh frame outwards (**Page 10: Safety distances**). Negligence to comply with the safety distances may cause fire hazard.
2. Remove the protective plastic cover from the heater.
3. See applicable wiring diagram for the right heater model to be installed (**Page 9**).
4. Remove the base plate from the underside of the heater by unscrewing the three screws (**Picture 1**). Lead the five-pole electric cable to the connection strip inside the element box according to the **Wiring diagram (page 9)**.
5. Once the heater is fully connected to the house cabling, measure that all the heating elements function properly. If problems occur, contact the manufacturer's technical support or retailer.
6. Close the base plate (**Picture 2**) and position the heater in the appropriate place. Check that the safety distances (**Page 10**) to inflammable materials are adequate before piling the stones in.

Piling the stones

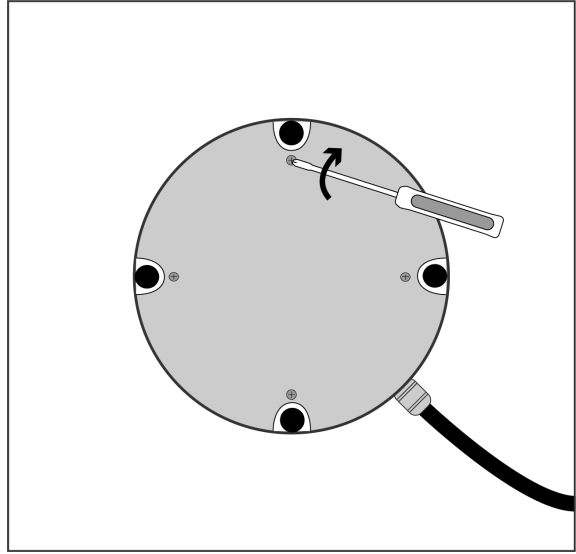
Olivine, olivine-diabase, peridotite or black volcanic stones are recommended stones, in sizes 5-10 cm in diameter.

1. Check that the guide for the elements is in place at the top of the heater and keeps them upright. It should position appx. 15cm from the top of the elements (**Picture 3**).
2. Pillar IKI 4,5 kW, 9 kW, and 10 kW heaters have a two-part mesh. Remove the upper mesh and start piling stones into the lower mesh (**Picture 4**). Reattach the upper mesh once the lower mesh is almost full of stones (**Picture 5**). Pillar IKI 6,6 kW and 10,5 kW heaters have a single-piece mesh.
3. Pile the stones into the heater one by one. The idea is to create a dense layer of stones against the mesh and place the remaining stones loosely inside the heater. Do not drop or throw stones into the heater. The dense layer prevents direct heat radiation to potentially flammable materials around the heater. Loose piling of stones in the center allows air to flow through the heater, speeding up the heating of the sauna and the stones. Make sure that the heating elements do not touch each other or the mesh.
4. Pile the stones slightly above the top surface level of the heater (**Picture 6**). The element guide should remain in place approximately 15 cm below the top of the heating elements.
5. When piling the stones, make sure the heating elements are carefully covered. Ensure that the elements do not touch each other or the heater frame and that they remain centered inside the heater. (**Picture 7**).
6. Attach the wall bracket from the top band or from the mesh eye to the wall (**Picture 8**).
7. We recommend the use of safety railings around the heater.
8. The surface of the stones can settle after the heater is in use. Frequently check that the heating elements do not become exposed. If this should happen, add more stones. The disintegration of the stones depends on the type of stones and the frequency of use. The condition of the stones should be checked yearly, and broken stones must be replaced with new ones.

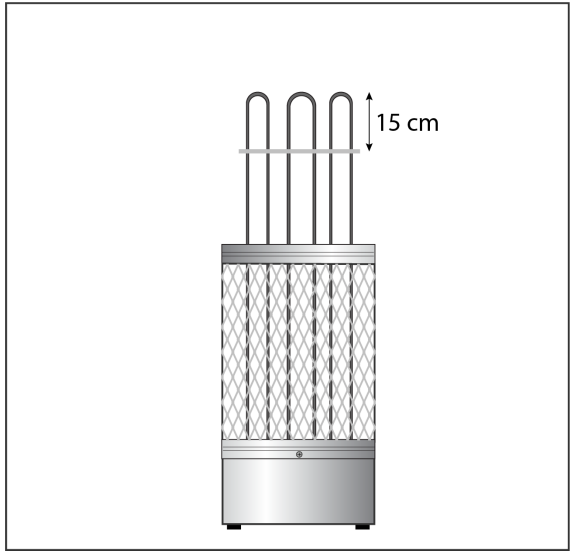
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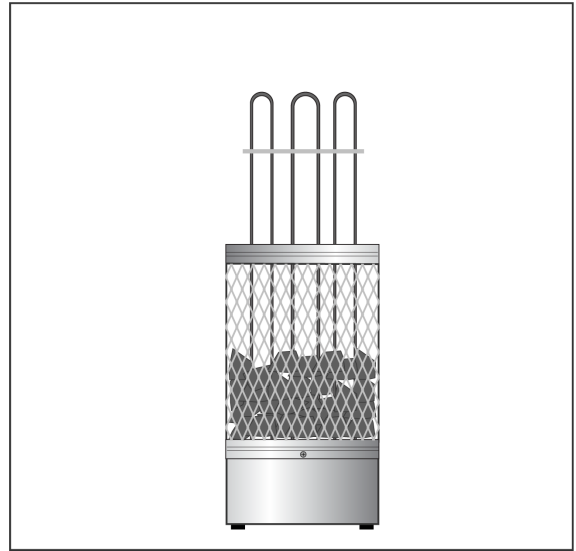
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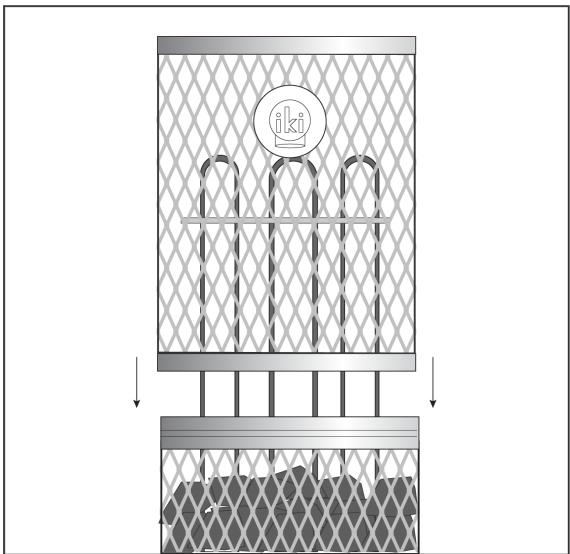
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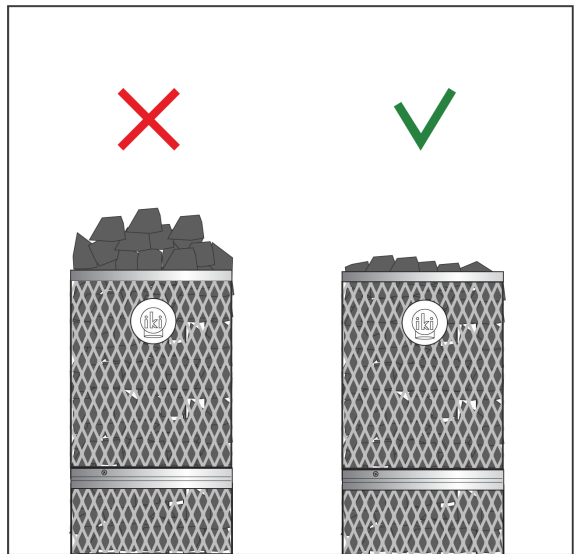
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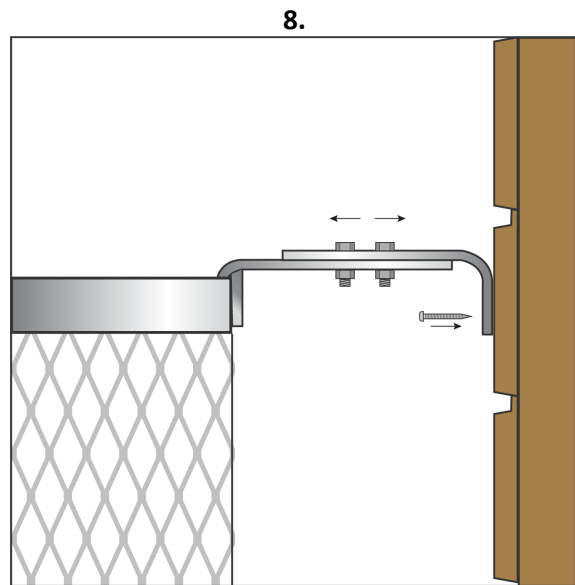
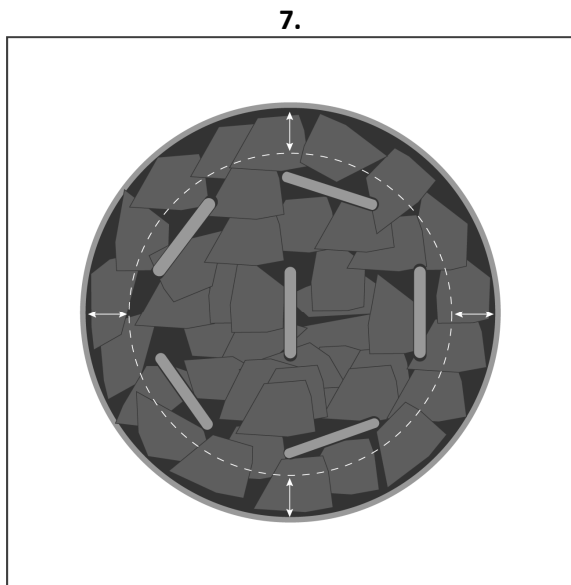


5.



6.





Control unit

Refer to the instructions for installing the control unit in the manual provided with it.

Location of the thermostat sensor / overheating protection in the sauna:

WALL INSTALLATION:

10 cm down from the ceiling

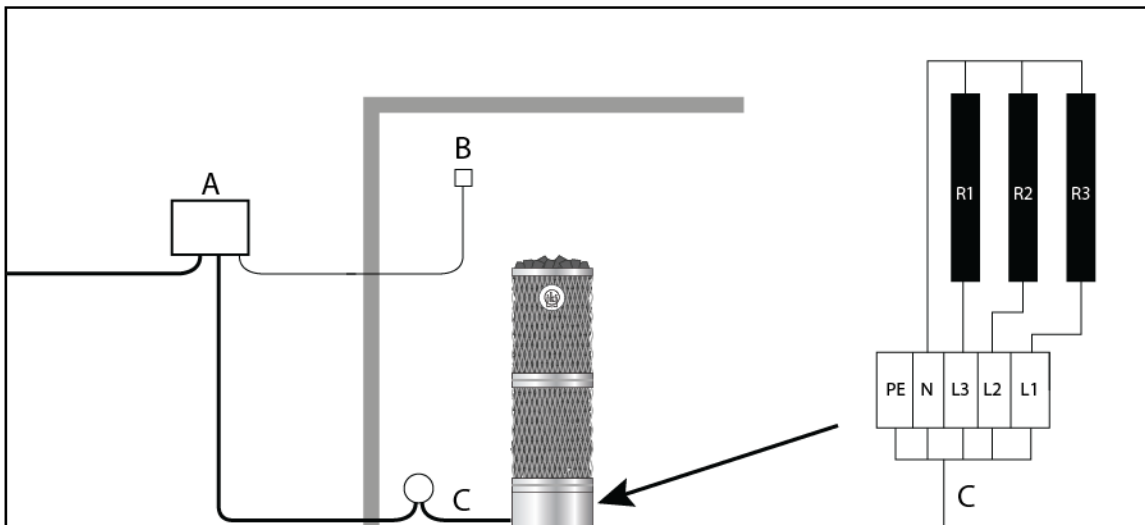
10–40 cm sideways from the outer edge of the heater.

CEILING INSTALLATION:

10–40 cm from the outer edge of the heater casing.

NOTE! Do not install the temperature sensor closer than 1000 mm to an un-directed air inlet or closer than 500 mm to an air inlet directed away from the sensor. The temperature limiter will cut off the heater's power if the sauna reaches a dangerously high temperature (139°C) in case of malfunction or fault.

Wiring diagram



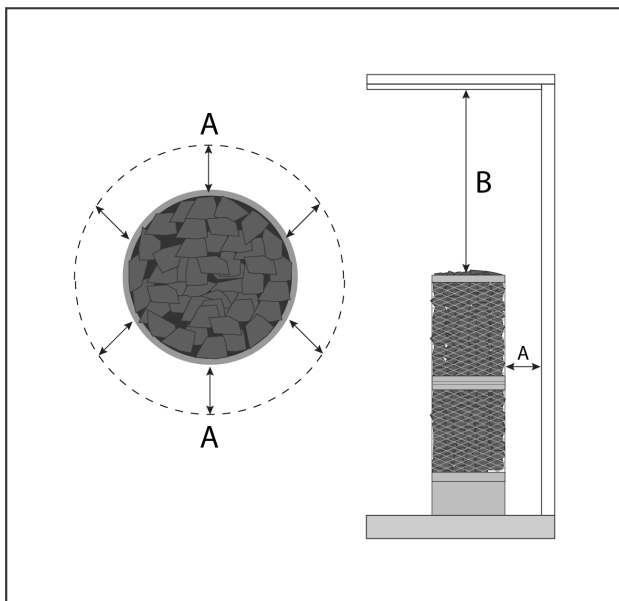
A: Control unit B: Thermostat sensor C: Connection cable

The heater must be connected to the electrical network semi-permanently using an H07RN-F or equivalent rubber cable. The use of PVC-insulated cable as the heater's connection cable is prohibited due to its heat fragility. **Electrical installation work may only be carried out by an authorized electrician in accordance with current regulations.** The maximum height of the junction box from the floor is 400 mm to the upper corner of the box. The connection cable must be installed so that it is not exposed to heat radiation or mechanical stress. If the rubber cable runs inside the sauna walls at a height of more than 1000 mm from the floor, it must withstand 170°C (e.g., SSJ).

Model table

	Size of sauna	Height of the heater	Diameter of the heater	Max. amount of stones	Power
Pillar IKI 4,5 kW	3–6 m ³	120 cm	26 cm	100 kg	4,5 kW
Pillar IKI 6,6 kW	5–10 m ³	100 cm	34cm	120 kg	6,6 kW
Pillar IKI 9 kW	8–16 m ³	120 cm	34 cm	150 kg	9 kW
Pillar IKI 10 kW	10–18 m ³	130 cm	34 cm	170 kg	10 kW
Pillar IKI 10,5 kW	10–19 m ³	100 cm	45 cm	170 kg	10,5 kW

Safety distances



Safety distances

A: To the back, sides and front

B: Up to the ceiling

If the heater is embedded inside the benches, we provide stainless steel embedding flange to complete the installation.

HEATER	A	B
Pillar IKI 4,5 kW	100 mm	600 mm
Pillar IKI 6,6 kW	100 mm	600 mm
Pillar IKI 9 kW	100 mm	800 mm
Pillar IKI 10 kW	100 mm	800 mm
Pillar IKI 10,5 kW	250 mm*	1000 mm

*A curved protective sheath is available for the 10,5 kW heater, which reduces the safety distance by 100 mm.

Requirements for water quality

Water type	Effect	Recommendation
Humus concentration	Color, taste, precipitates	<12 mg/l
Iron concentration	Color, smell, taste, precipitates	<0,2 mg/l
Hardness: most important substances are manganese (Mn) and lime, i.e. calcium (Ca)	Precipitates	Mn: <0,05 mg/l Ca: <100 mg/l
Chlorinated water	Risk to health	Forbidden
Seawater	Fast corrosion	Forbidden

Instructions for use

- Before bathing for the first time, heat up the heater once to burn off the protective oil solvents from the heating elements. Be careful to ventilate the sauna during that and afterwards.
- Before switching the heater on always check that there is nothing flammable on top of the heater or inside the given safety distance
- The heating time of an IKI heater is approximately 60-75 minutes to get the saunastones ready for the appropriate temperature. This can vary depending on the starting temperature and the ventilation of the sauna room. Recommended bathing sauna temperature to enter the saunas with the IKI is approximately 60-75C. Then by adding water to the heater you can increase the temperature to a preferred level.
- Pouring water on the heater increases temperature and humidity. You can control the heat and humidity by pouring the water to different parts of the heater. You can adjust the feel of the heat and steam from soft to sharp by throwing water either to the side of the heater or by pouring water on top of the stones at different places.
- Check that the heating elements do not become exposed as the stones shift about due to heat expansion. The stones settle normally in the first 10-20 times when heater is used.
- Check the condition of the stones at least once a year and replace if necessary. Rearrange the stones as advised in paragraph **(Page 6: Piling the stones)** once a year or even more often if the sauna is in frequent use. Replace any disintegrated stones with new ones. By doing this, the power output of the heater stays good, and the risk of overheating is avoided.
- Do not throw water to the heater when there are people nearby: the steam coming off the heater is burning hot. This might burn their skin. Do not throw too much water on to the heater. Maximum amount is 0,5 litres. It is important to throw water on the heated stones to have a good and comfortable level of humidity in the sauna.
- The water to be thrown on the heated stones should meet the requirements of clean household water.
- After taking the (Löyly) in the sauna, cool your skin down as necessary and allow your heart rate to settle back to normal. Have a drink of fresh water or mineral water to help stabilize your fluid balance.

Do NOT spray water on the heater or around it with a hose when cleaning the sauna. Water can reach the electrical connectors at the bottom of the heater and cause serious damage.

Troubleshooting

If the sauna room does not heat up, check that:

- The power is on and the circuit breakers are in working condition and are the correct size.
- The timer is set to the operating range.
- The temperature is set in a controller to a higher temperature than the temperature in the sauna room.
- The fuses are intact.
- The temperature restrictor (overheat protector) has not gone off. If temperature restrictor has gone off, the reason for this must be solved before using heater again.
- The stones are piled correctly, not too tightly packed.
- Check that all heating elements glow when the heater is on.
- Check that the heater output is sufficient (**Page 9: Model table**)
- Check that the sauna room ventilation has been arranged correctly.

If the sauna heats up but the stones not (= water goes through without generating steam)

- Turn the temperature lower from the controller
- Check that the heater output is not too high (**Page 9: Model table**)
- Check that the sauna room ventilation has been arranged correctly

If the wood panel starts to darken around the heater

Check that the requirements for safety distances (**Page 10**) are fulfilled.

Too tightly piled stones and the settling of stones or wrong stone type can stop the smooth air flow through the heater. This might cause the overheating of surrounding materials. Check also that heating elements cannot be seen through the stones. If heating elements are visible, rearrange the stones immediately without further using the heater.

Other problems

If the heater makes noise, this can be caused by stones breaking due to heat and the thermal expansion of heater parts. This noise may be evident when the heater warms up.

Warranty

IKI-Kiuas Oy (the manufacturer) assures a warranty to its products as stipulated here, guaranteeing the quality and functionality of the products during the warranty period. The warranty requires that the buyer follow the instructions regarding the placement of the heater, its installation, use and maintenance as well as those regarding the qualities of the stones used in the heater. The length of the warranty period is 24 months from the day of purchase or from the day of purchase for private family use. The warranty period for spa saunas and other public-use saunas is 6 months or determined according to the frequency of use. Contact the manufacturer for more details.

The warranty for electric heaters requires that:

- 1 In case of defect or malfunction, the buyer must always contact the manufacturer or sales agent / retailer before searching for the cause or attempting to repair it. Any repairs must be agreed upon in writing with the manufacturer.
- 2 In private apartment use, the heater's stone space needs to be cleaned out and re-piled at least once a year and weathered stones need to be replaced with new ones.
- 3 In institutional or professional use, the heater's stones must be re-piled at least annually. If this is not done, the warranty ceases to apply. In addition, the stones must be changed to new ones at least once a year. Proof, such as the product's purchase receipt, must be presented at request. The use of ceramic heater stones (other than those from kerkes.fi) is prohibited.
- 4 The warranty does not cover dismantlement or reinstallation on sauna benches, removal of sauna stones nor re-piling them.
- 5 The warranty for replacement parts is 12 months from the day of purchase. The replacement for the damaged part will be delivered at manufacturers cost. The installation of the replacement part must be carried out by an licensed electrician. The guarantee does not cover the faulty part removal or repair costs on the field. If the heater is returned to the manufacturer or retailer within 2 years from the date of purchase, the importer will provide free repair work, but may charge for spare parts if the warranty period has expired. The guarantee is void if installation and wiring has not been carried out by a licensed electrician or authorized and licensed service representative. The electricians or installers signature is needed below. The guarantee is not valid if the information below is not filled out and returned to the manufacturer or importer within 15 days of purchase. The warranty is limited to the first installation of the product and to the original buyer.
- 6 Limitations to warranty: The product owner must take good care of the product. On receiving the product, the owner is expected to check that it does not show signs of damage caused during shipping or storage. In case of such damage, they must contact the sales agent or transport company immediately. The manufacturer is not liable for any damages caused during shipping, or by inappropriate storage, installation or use against manufacturer's instructions, neglect of maintenance, or damage caused by placement of the heater in a place which does not meet the recommendations made by the manufacturer. Replacing any parts in the heater does not extend the original guarantee period.
- 7 Damage notifications: The owner is responsible for notifying the manufacturer, the sales agent, or manufacturer's authorized mechanic of any damage or malfunction as soon as it appears and within 14 days. Any warranty related claims must be submitted within 14 days from the closing date of the product's warranty period. The manufacturer is not liable for reimbursing any expenses, business loss or other direct or indirect harm occurred to the buyer from damages or malfunction.

Quality guarantee / Freight guarantee

Guarantee of materials. The manufacturer guarantees the durability of the stainless-steel parts (resistor platform and frame) in private home use for 10 years. During the warranty period any defects that appear in the heater's raw materials or are production-based will be repaired free of charge. For example, the use of seawater on the heater is forbidden. Read through the requirements for water quality in the installation's instructions.

The warranty does not cover colour changes, slipping or hair-line fractures, characteristic to natural stones, which do not affect the use or the safety of the heater.

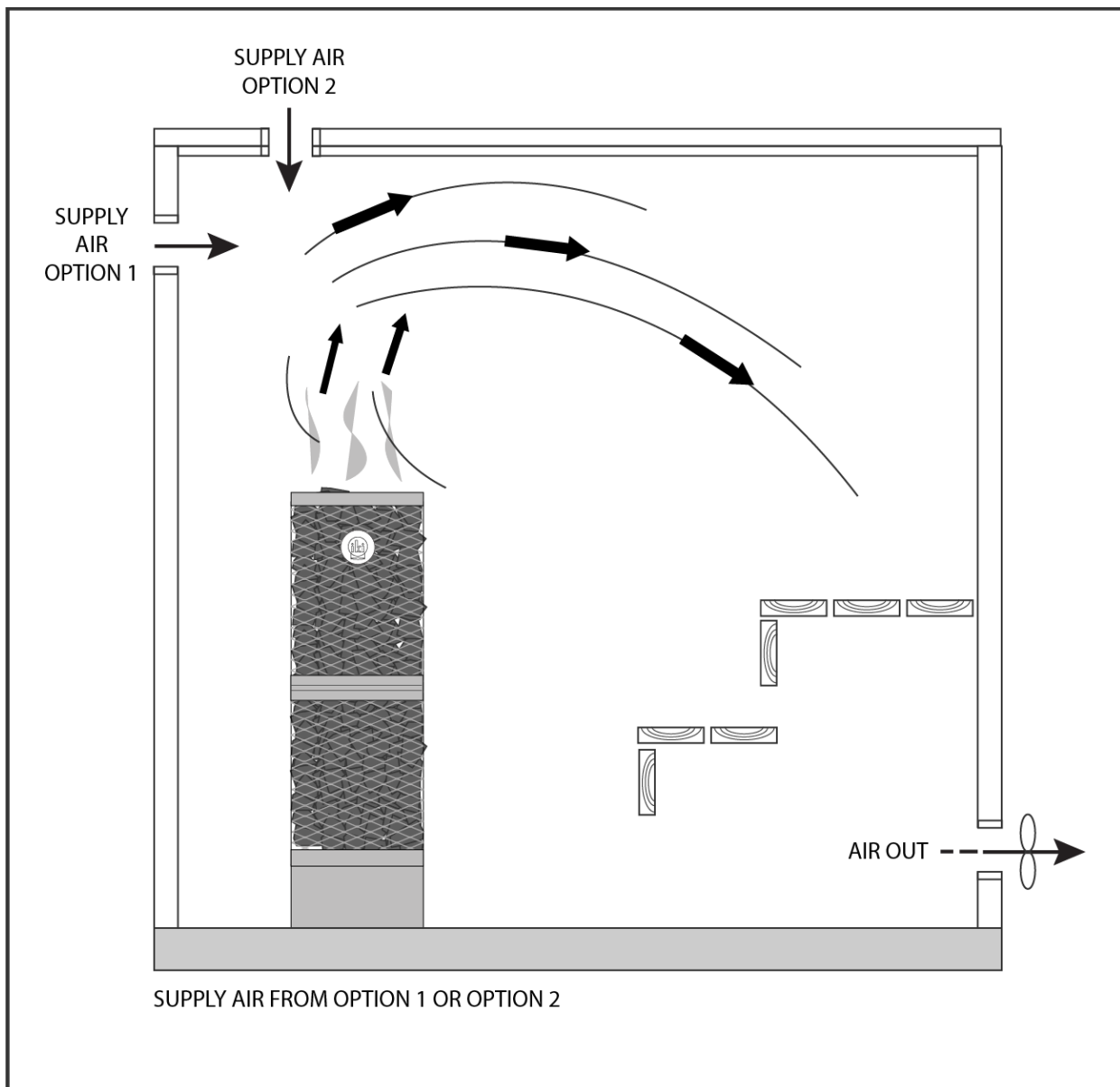
Damages occurred during shipping must be recorded in the waybill when the product is received or within 7 days of delivery. Shipping damage must also always be reported to the shipping company's last contact. The damaged part needs to be stored for inspection. Insurance compensates for the new part, which will be delivered by a public transporter. In all issues concerning warranty contact the store from where the product was purchased.

Ventilation

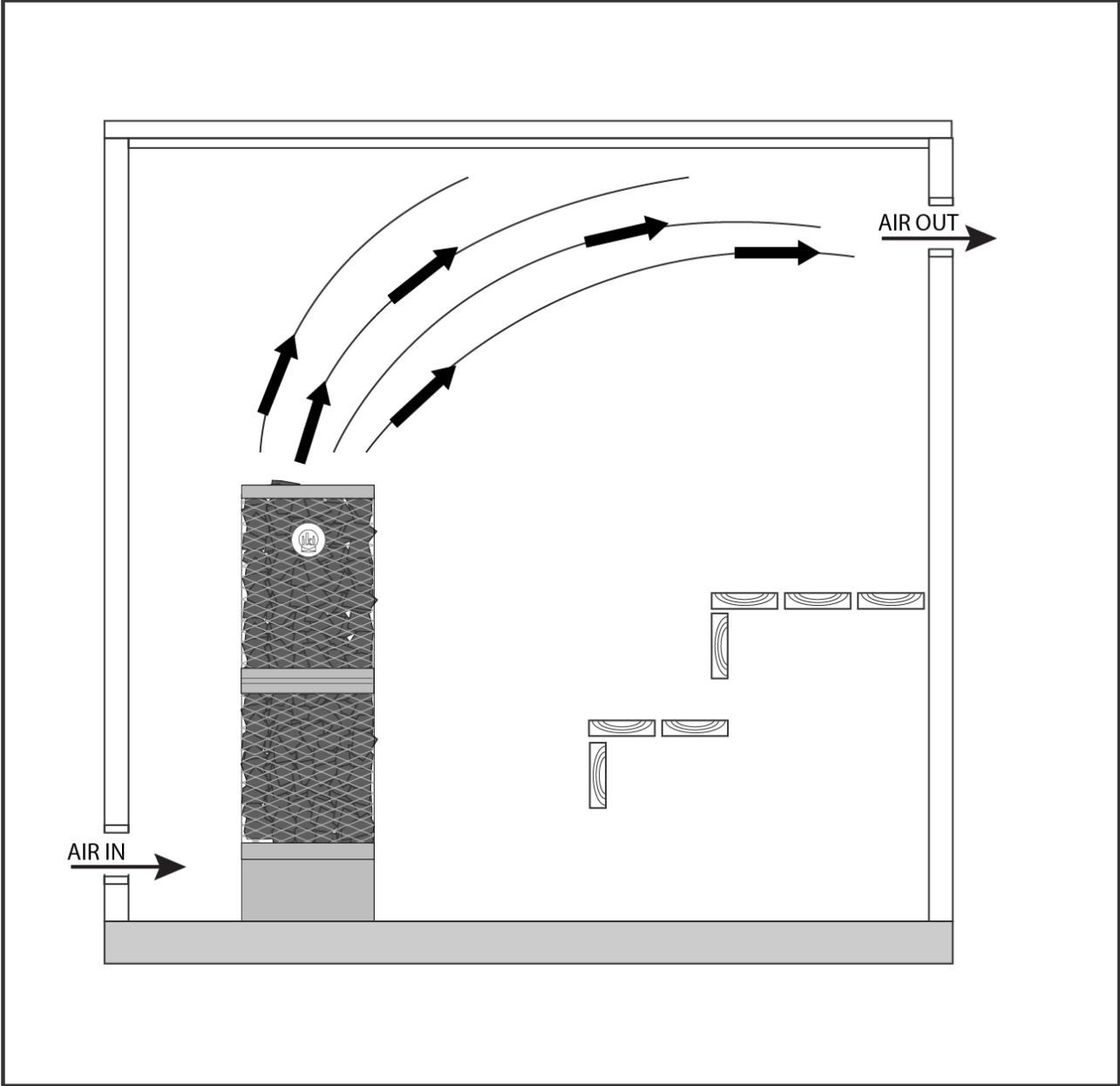
The ventilation in the sauna room needs to be considered. Proper air-flow allows bathers to enjoy fresh, oxygen-rich air. The air should fully exchange 6 times an hour. The supply air inlet should be installed on the wall or the ceiling at about 20 inches (500 mm) above the heater. The supply air inlet vent should be 2-4 inches (50-100 mm) in diameter. The outlet vent should be located as far away from the heater as possible, close to the floor. The outlet vent should be twice the size of the inlet vent.

NOTE! The sensor for the thermostat should be located at a minimum of 39 inches (1000 mm) distance from undirected vent for replacement air, or minimum of 20 inches (500 mm) distance from the air vent directed away from the sensor.

Mechanical ventilation



Gravity ventilation





CE IPX4 

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