

“What causes water in a gas furnace flue?”

The modern, high-efficiency gas furnace is a fabulous engineering marvel.

In the old days, low-efficiency gas furnaces sent almost as much heat up the chimney as they put into your home. This pushed your utility bills sky-high and wasted precious natural resources.

Today's high-efficiency gas furnaces extract more heat during the burning process and send much less of it up the flue. But for all the benefits these furnaces offer, there's one important side effect that must be dealt with --excessive moisture in the flue.

You see, water is a by-product of burning. In fact, when you burn one cubic foot of gas, you create two cubic feet of water vapor. Those old, inefficient furnaces sent so much heat up the flue that the water created in the combustion process stayed in the form of hot steam all the way up and out the chimney.

New high-efficiency furnaces don't put as much heat into the flue; they put it into the home where you want it. The problem is, the water vapor that's created during burning now doesn't have the draft power to push it up and out your chimney. And, unfortunately, no masonry chimney is designed to be constantly bathed with water, especially the acid-laden water that is found in your furnace flue.

Some common symptoms of excessive moisture in a gas furnace chimney:

Inside

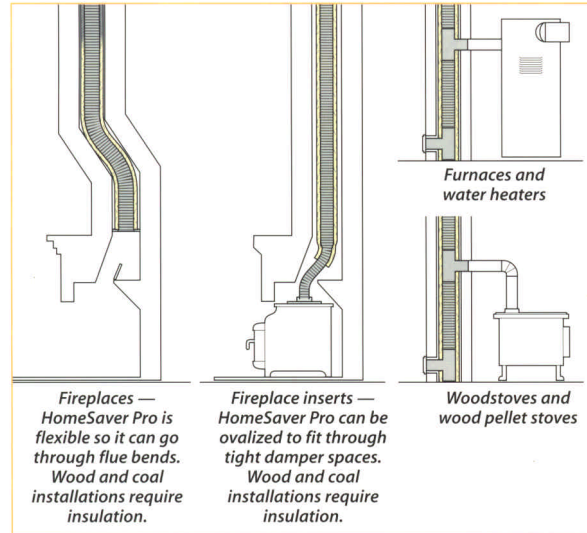
Peeling wallpaper
Blistering paint
Flaking plaster
Ceiling stains
Damp patches
Mold

Outside

White stains on brick
Eroded mortar joints

A Clean Sweep can reline any chimney to fit your exact configuration.

Each system comes with a lifetime warranty.



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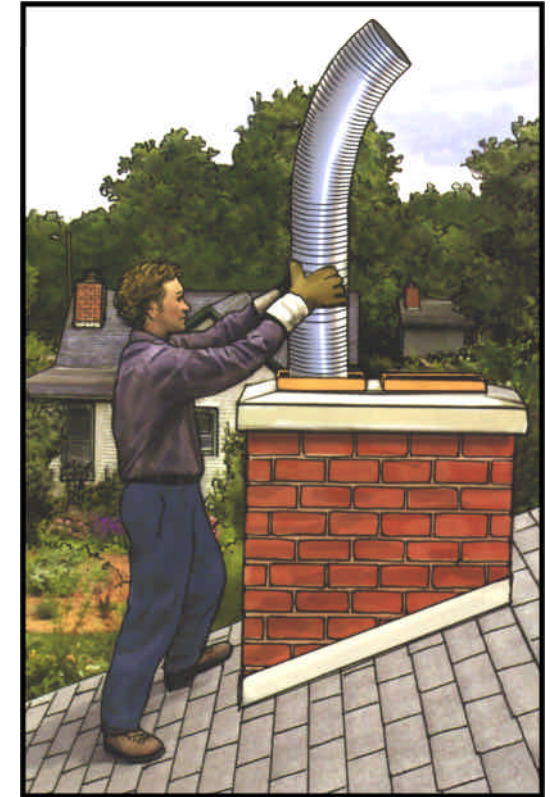
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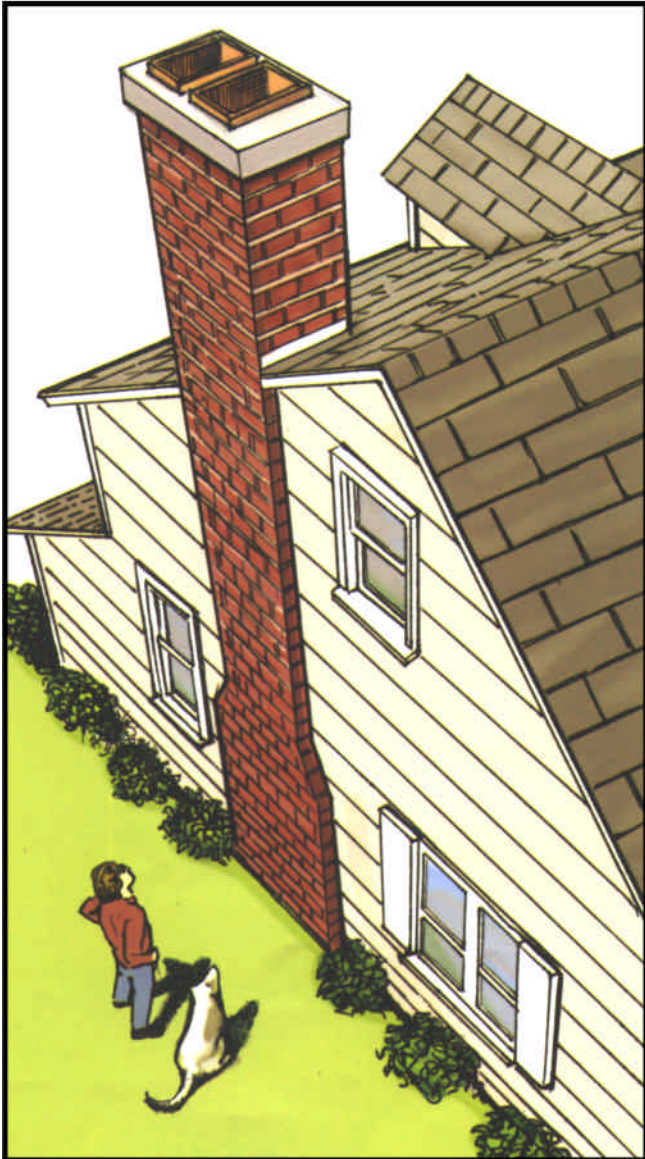
New Life for Chimneys



A CLEAN SWEEP
CHIMNEY SERVICE

"But my chimney looks fine on the outside."

Many chimneys appear to be in fine condition on the outside. But inside it could be a completely different situation. Yesterday's chimneys were not designed for venting today's more energy-efficient appliances. Let's take a close look at what really counts...the inside of the chimney.

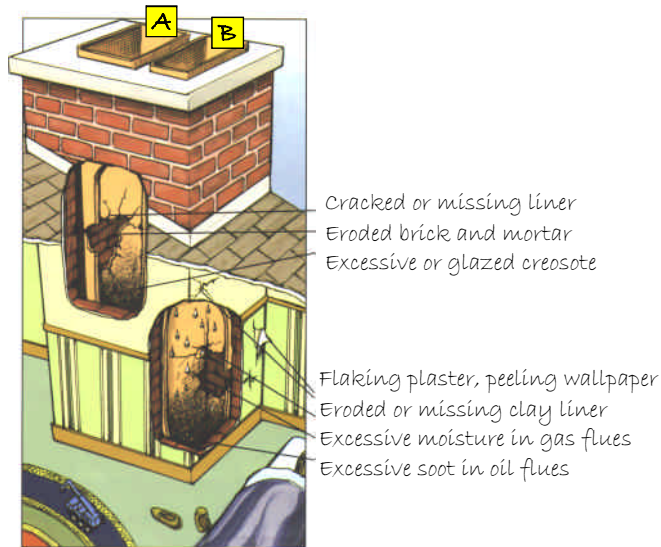


Now look inside... see the problems?

A look inside a chimney that appears fine on the outside often reveals a totally different picture. There may be cracks, and even pieces missing from the original clay liner. Older chimneys may not even have a clay liner. Mortar and bricks may be loose and falling, and there may even be other deterioration.

In the flue marked **A**, servicing a fireplace or woodstove, you can see a creosote buildup, cracked and missing liner, and eroded brick and mortar. These conditions may be the result of numerous things: flue fires, an improperly vented appliance, misused woodstove, poor construction, and excessive moisture. With continued use the chimney presents hazards to the home's occupants from fire or carbon monoxide poisoning.

In the flue marked **B**, servicing the furnace side of the chimney, you can see how moisture is leaching into the home. Cracked and missing tiles will also lead to carbon monoxide seeping into the home.



Chimney problems can cause illness and even loss of lives.

It happens thousands of times a year. Chimney defects result in injury and death from fire and from carbon monoxide poisoning.

It doesn't take much to start a house fire **A**. One spark flitting through a crack, or an ember igniting a chimney fire which climbs the chimney "looking" for an escape route is often enough to start a house fire. Excessive heat conducted through the chimney walls where the liner is missing is another common culprit in house fires.

On the furnace side **B**, tile deterioration can allow deadly flue gases to escape into your home through the tiniest cracks. In the severest cases there can be partial or complete collapse of the clay flue liner, spilling deadly fumes throughout the home.

Fortunately, all these problems can usually be corrected without completely rebuilding the chimney.

