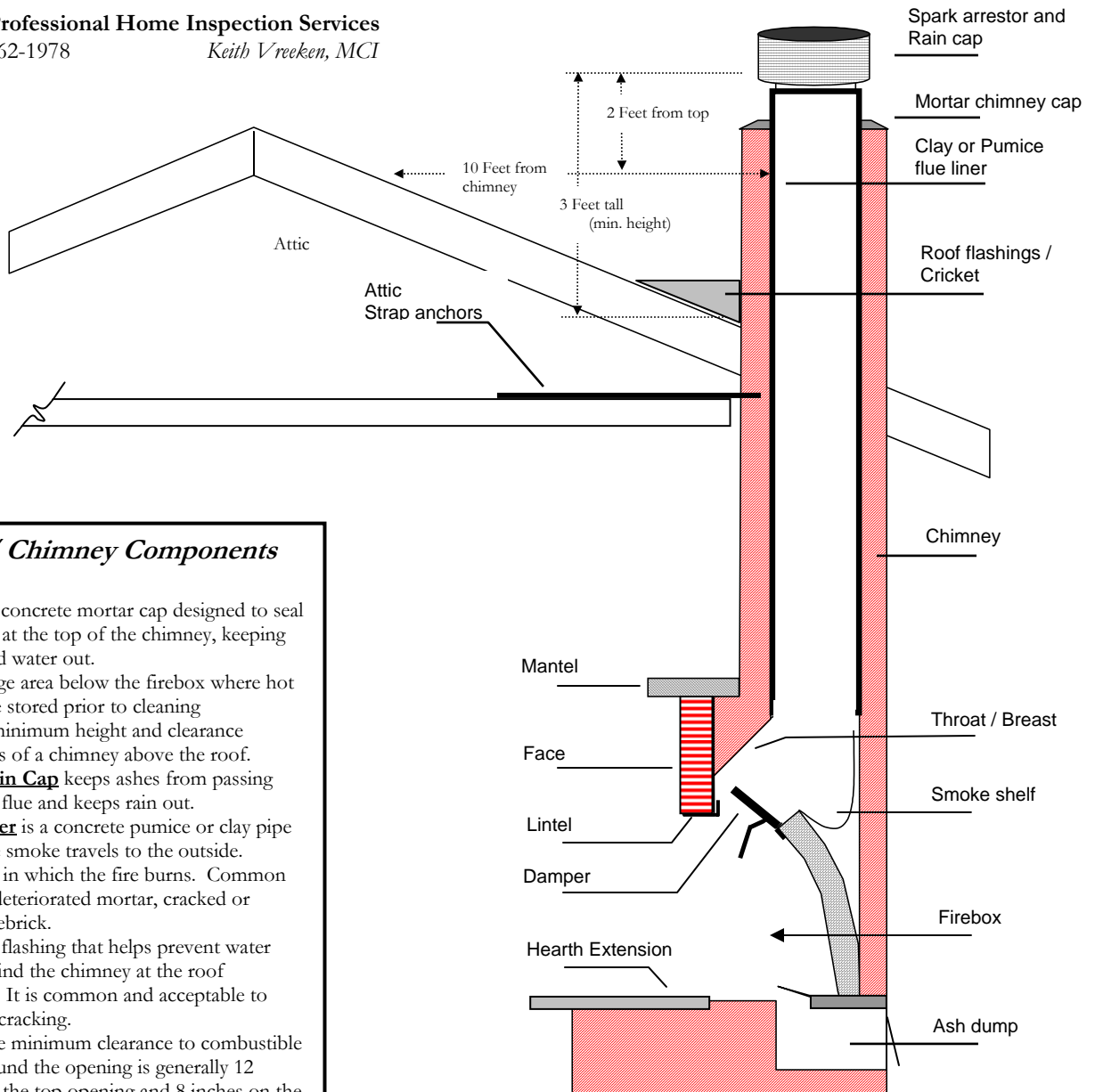


Masonry Fireplace Components/ Maintenance

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Fireplace / Chimney Components

Chimney Cap is a concrete mortar cap designed to seal the opening at the top of the chimney, keeping moisture and water out.

Ash Dump is storage area below the firebox where hot ashes can be stored prior to cleaning

3-2-10 Rule is the minimum height and clearance requirements of a chimney above the roof.

Spark Screen / Rain Cap keeps ashes from passing through the flue and keeps rain out.

Chimney Flue Liner is a concrete pumice or clay pipe in which the smoke travels to the outside.

Firebox is the area in which the fire burns. Common defects are deteriorated mortar, cracked or damaged firebrick.

Cricket is a type of flashing that helps prevent water buildup behind the chimney at the roof connection. It is common and acceptable to have minor cracking.

Wood Mantle: The minimum clearance to combustible material around the opening is generally 12 inches from the top opening and 8 inches on the sides.

Damper closes off the flue when not in use, to prevent heat loss. This is required to be locked in the open position when a gas log appliance is installed in a wood-burning fireplace.

Hearth: is the floor of the firebox.

Ash Box is an area under the firebox to store hot ashes.

Hearth Extension: The minimum general hearth extension size is 16 inches.

Throat / Breast: The throat is the opening in which the smoke travels from the firebox into the flue. And the breast is the front side of the throat.

Lintel: is the metal beam used to hold up the brick or rock over the firebox opening.

Fireplace / Chimney Maintenance

A. We recommend that you have your fireplace cleaned, and your chimney swept and inspected annually if you use your fireplace on a regular basis.

B. If you do not use your fireplace regularly, you should have your fireplace and chimney inspected prior to using it for the first time each season.