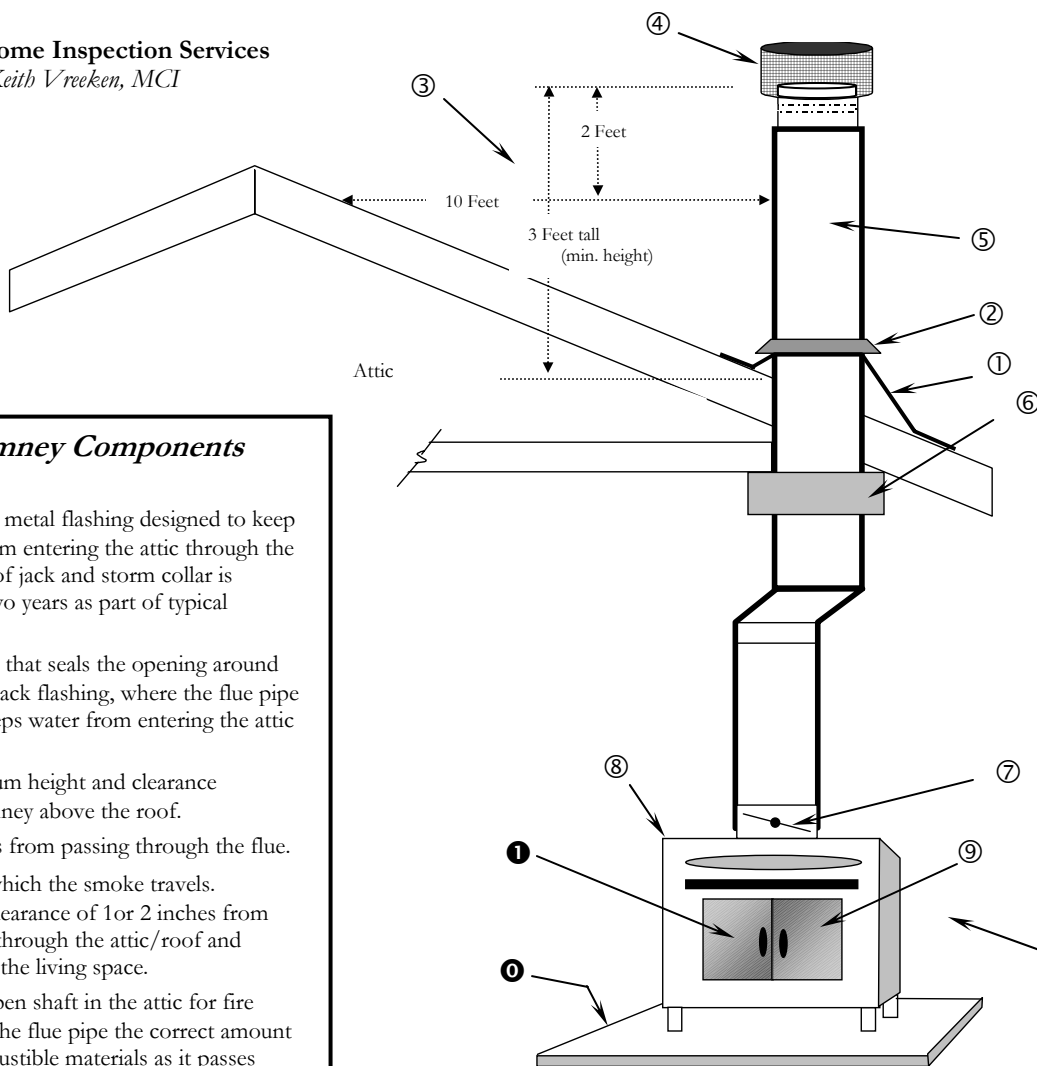




Freestanding Fireplace Components/ Maintenance

From **Professional Home Inspection Services**
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Fireplace / Chimney Components

- ①. **Chimney/Roof Jack** is a metal flashing designed to keep moisture and water from entering the attic through the roof. Sealing at the roof jack and storm collar is recommended every two years as part of typical maintenance.
- ②. **Storm Collar** is a flashing that seals the opening around the flue pipe and roof jack flashing, where the flue pipe passes through and keeps water from entering the attic area.
- ③. **3-2-10 Rule** is the minimum height and clearance requirements of a chimney above the roof.
- ④. **Spark Screen** keeps ashes from passing through the flue.
- ⑤. **Flue Pipe** is the pipe in which the smoke travels. Generally, a required clearance of 1 or 2 inches from combustible materials through the attic/roof and requires more through the living space.
- ⑥. **Ceiling box** covers the open shaft in the attic for fire protection, and keeps the flue pipe the correct amount of distance from combustible materials as it passes through the ceiling into the attic.
- ⑦. **Damper** closes off the flue when not in use to prevent heat loss and to control the heat inside the firebox. It is required to be locked in the open position when a gas log appliance is installed in a wood-burning fireplace.
- ⑧. **Fire Box** is the metal box in which the fire burns.
- ⑨. **Refractory Shields** are generally masonry or metal located inside the firebox and are designed to reflect the heat away from the metal firebox walls. It is common and acceptable to have minor cracking.
- ⑩. **Hearth:** is the non-combustible material separating the fireplace from the floor. The minimum general hearth size is 16 inches in the front and 8 inches on the side.
- ⑪. **Doors:** Doors are not required on some freestanding fireplaces.
- ⑫. **Clearances:** Each unit has its own set of requirements stated on the placard generally located on the back of the unit. If no placard is found on the unit it will require 36 inches from combustible material. There are many different ways to reduce minimum clearances (example: masonry brick on the walls around the unit.)

Fireplace / Chimney Maintenance

A. It is recommend that you have your fireplace cleaned, 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 the first time each season.