

Reasons for lining a chimney

There are a number of reasons why an old chimney may need lining. These can be summarised as follows:



1. The flue is leaking smoke and fumes into other rooms or parts of the building.



2. Condensates or tar are seeping through the chimney walls causing staining either inside or outside the building ~ ~ (a not uncommon problem with wood burning stoves.)





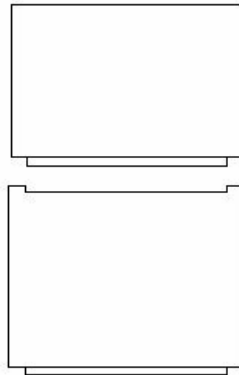
3. The flue is much too large for the type of fire or appliance being used.



4. The flue is too cold. Particularly if on an outside wall, and is consequently not drawing properly.



5. If the chimney was built since 1965, but with the liners installed the wrong way up, (regrettably this is quite a common occurrence!), tar and condensate leakage may occur.



Correct orientation of liners



6. The old flue surface is eroded and rough, causing frictional resistance to the flow of the flue gases and resulting in poor updraught.



7. When a new gas fire is installed to an unlined chimney, lining should be considered if the old parging is crumbling with mortar debris continually falling onto the hearth, or if there is evidence of condensation.

With acknowledgement to the National Fireplace Association for reproducing this extract from their Technical Information Leaflet No.4 1993 "Lining Old Chimneys"