

Dates Inspected:						Inspected by:

TS-0036

Fireplace (Wood Burning)

These instructions are to be used as a guide to help you maintain your home or office in a safe and efficient manner. They do not replace the requirements of the manufacturer. You should ALWAYS review your owner's manual for additional preventive maintenance requirements.

This inspection is designed to increase safety and to save energy.

1. Inspect the area above the opening for signs of smoke. This could indicate there is a problem with the chimney or that someone built a fire and did not open the damper.

2. Inspect the fire brick that lines the inside of the fireplace. The brick should have a solid look without signs of crumbling or missing mortar. (These bricks insulate your home from the fire). If the bricks look like they are decaying, contact a professional for an assessment before building a fire in the fireplace.

3. Open and close the damper. The damper should work freely and stay in the open and close positions. If the damper will not remain in both the open and the closed positions, make the necessary repairs or adjustments or call a professional for service.

4. Clean excess ashes from the fireplace once they have cooled.

5. Close the damper when the fireplace is not in use. An open damper allows the heated or cooled air within your house to escape through your chimney.

Note: It is a good idea to vacuum out the fireplace area, including the damper area, by using a vacuum with a hose attachment. Often, soot can build up on the damper and restrict its ability to fully open or fully close.

The Maintenance Guru says take your time and do a thorough inspection. Ask if you have questions!