

Home and hearth

Anatomy of a modern fireplace

Flue

A clay, ceramic or metal liner designed to minimize the amount of heat transferred to the bricks of the chimney.

Safety gap

As an added precaution, all combustible materials such as wood studs should be at least two inches away from the chimney.

Lintel

A metal shelf built into the masonry which supports the brick bridge in the face of the fireplace.

Lintel crack

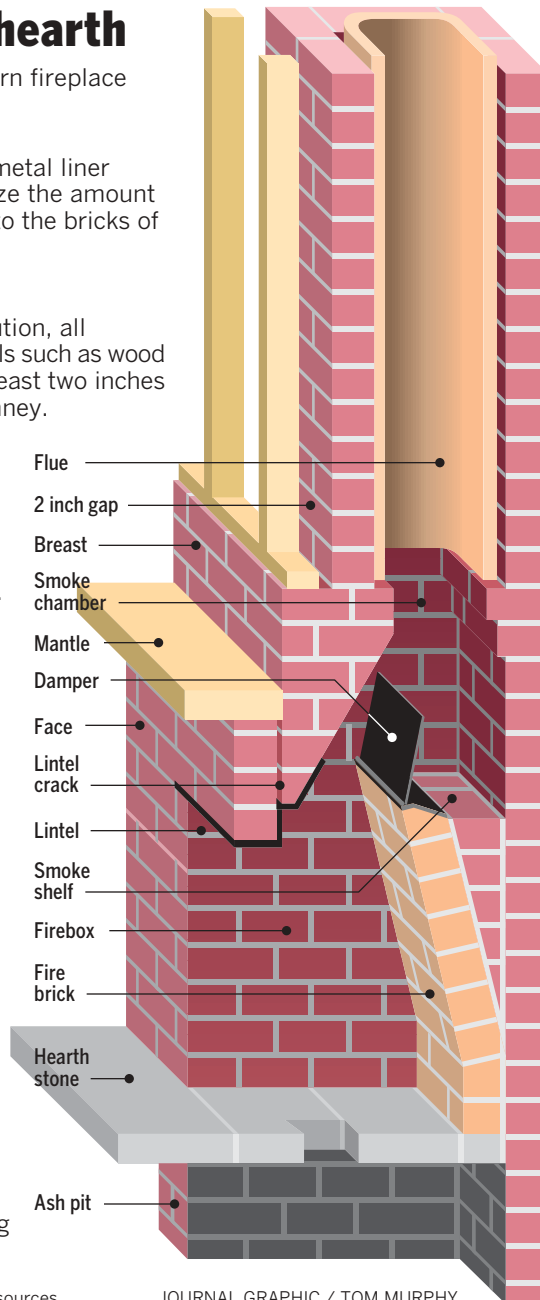
The space between the face and the breast of the fireplace. The lintel also prevents heat from rising through this crack to the mantle,

Damper

The damper is closed to prevent heat loss when fireplace is not being used.

Smoke shelf

Designed to minimize down drafts and also to act as a receptacle for falling mortar or moisture.



SOURCE: Various internet sources

JOURNAL GRAPHIC / TOM MURPHY