

# The Chimney Sweep

Your expert on  
safety, protection  
of environment  
and energy saving

The chimney sweep trade works to the restrictions of the certifications according to DIN EN ISO 9001 (quality management) and ISO 14001 (environmental management). Every chimney sweep guild and every single chimney sweep business is subjected to continuous auditing – stringent requirements that guarantee continuous improvement and exceptional quality.



**GERMAN FEDERAL ASSOCIATION OF MASTER CHIMNEY SWEEPS**

– Central Association of the Trade Guilds (ZIV) –

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## Your Chimney Sweep

### Experts over the course of time



**C**himney sweeps have provided for safety for many centuries. In the meantime of course much has changed: Today the chimney sweep isn't only a competent partner on fire protection, but also a

neutral and independent consultant in the field of pollution control and energy savings.

The existing system offers an efficient and cost-effective way to implement excellent fire protection and the reduction of emissions in order to protect our environment. For this reason, Germany is the EU Member State with the lowest amount of accidents due to fire and carbon monoxide.

The new law on chimney sweeps achieves many changes: After a transition period, you will have the option from 2013 onwards, to charge a chimney sweep with cleaning, testing and inspection of your flues and heating appliances. Important safety tasks, such as fire protection and the acceptance of heating appliances remain in the competent hands of your district master chimney sweep.

Of course, you will still have the option to entrust your district master chimney sweep with all work as usual. This will release you from scheduling and needless expense with paperwork.





## The Primary Task of the Chimney Sweep

**– because your safety is worth it**

**F**ire protection is the primary task of the chimney sweep. In the days when there were no checks of heating appliances, houses and indeed towns regularly burnt down. Only the comprehensive monitoring of fire protection by the chimney sweep trade guarantees safety for life, limb and property.

For this reason chimney sweeps in Germany are considered good luck charms. Even today the fire protection provided by the chimney sweep trade is as important as ever. Every year there are approximately 1.5 million hazardous defects with heating appliances registered by chimney sweeps.

With the change of the chimney sweep law, the responsibility for fire protection passes partially onto the owner. Within the regular check of fire protection you will receive a document listing all duties and deadlines concerning your heating appliance.

In order to be insured in case of damage, it is necessary that you are able to prove in writing the prescribed precautions in a timely manner.





## Regular safety checks

**For your safety – and  
that of your loved ones**

A pleasant atmosphere conveys safety. Modern heating appliances accomplish this at a high level: Heating was never so easy and clean as it is today. Quickly we forget that safety is not an automatic process.

Chimney sweeps in Germany register thousands of gas heating appliances with hazardous carbon monoxide values in the flue gas during their yearly checks. The poisonous and odourless gas can quickly become a deadly danger.

European comparative figures show that the number of fatal accidents caused by carbon monoxide in other countries are at least ten times higher.

Regular checks and CO-measurements early detect dangerous defects and ensure your safety and that of your family.



## Reducing Emissions

### – protection of the environment

Since the introduction of environmental measurements according to the First German Federal Regulation on the Protection against Noxious Immissions (1. BImSchV) in the 1970s, the harmful emissions have been reduced by 80 percent.

As part of his measurements the chimney sweep also determines the flue gas heat loss of your heating appliance. Those measurements have revealed that almost one in five heating appliance has a flue gas heat loss of more than 9 percent. This means that more than 9 percent of the fuel is wasted as warmth to the environment. An unnecessary burden on your wallet and the environment!

The recent discussion on pollution due to fine particles has led to increasing uncertainty in the population. The chimney sweep as your expert on safety, environment and energy saving will advise you comprehensively and competently relating to the correct storage and handling of solid fuels. This is the way to get a warm and pleasant home without burdening the environment.



## Reducing Costs and Protecting Climate

### Competent and independent consultancy concerning building construction and energy saving

**W**hen building or renovating a house you should consult your chimney sweep early in the process: With his significant experience and independence from sale or installation your chimney sweep can point out alternatives regarding heating appliances and chimney in an unbiased and comprehensive way.

Further more your chimney sweep can offer you an energy consultancy. In many cases you can save a similar amount of energy by modernising the heating appliance rather than adding insulation to the house – and this at much lower costs.

As a certified energy consultant your chimney sweep will point out monetary savings and advise you on state subsidies and support measures.

A first step is a quick energy check of the heating appliance, whereby your chimney sweep determines the heat loss of the flue gas, the surface of the heating appliance and the ventilation. He also surveys the heat production for example by checking the dimensions of the heating appliance, the condensing grade and the insulation of the heating pipes.

