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How to replace furnace vent cap

Remove the old vent and any debris, cut away surrounding shingles, and inspect the flashing for damage. In case you need a ladder to reach up to the duct, deploy it carefully on an even surface so that it doesn't topple over during work. Use a ladder to reach up to the pipes and remove it one piece after the other for convenience. Use elbow joints to help you guide the duct towards the wall outlet. The storm collar slides over the end of the vent pipe and rests against the top of the roof's vent flashing. Set the cap aside. Have someone stabilize the vent pipe below as you pull upward on it and lift the lower section into the attic. Cut through the sealant covering the seam between the vent pipe and its storm collar with a utility knife. Hold the vent pipe still and turn the cap counterclockwise until the cap releases from the end of the vent pipe. Use a hammer to tap the connection point if necessary. Pushing Up New Type B Vent Pipe The joint between the vent pipe and flashing cone is caulked with Adaseal HVAC/R 100% RTV silicone high temperature caulk. Cutting the collar was quicker than working it off the length of the pipe. BlockageAccumulated debris like leaves and animal nests can obstruct the venting, making your furnace work harder. Ice DamsProper ventilation prevents ice dams caused by heat buildup in the attic space. Old Type B Gas Vents The rust hasn't corroded through the pipe wall, but the rust lines indicate rain water getting inside the pipe. Hope this helps, Bob Jackson Skip to content Automated page speed optimizations for fast site performance To ensure our content is always up-to-date with current information, best practices, and professional advice, articles are routinely reviewed by industry experts with years of hands-on experience. The job took about 2 hours and the final cost was \$350 versus the \$400 original quote because we decided not to install new flashing cones. The storm collar's cone-shaped design directs rainwater away from the roof flashing. Remove the screws holding the termination cap on the end of the vent pipe, using the correct size screwdriver to turn the screws ... Cut through the sealant covering the seam between the vent pipe and the roof flashing with a utility knife. The minor issue was finding HVAC contractors that also did roof work. Roof Vent Flashing Cone Cleaned and Ready for New Pipe The second man inside the attic pushes up the new section of vent pipe through the flashing cone. Drag the end of the pipe from the flange and use a hammer to dislodge it by tapping. Rust and CorrosionOver time, exposure to the elements can cause rust and corrosion in old furnace roof venting, compromising its integrity. The black RTV sealant beneath the rain cap and on the storm collars is only one week old and did not stop the leak. Old furnace vents are removed when they are damaged or when a furnace is being replaced. With a screwdriver, unfasten the clamp where the vent attaches to the furnace. The vents are water tight and no water trails are to be seen on the shiny new sections of pipe in the attic. Caulking the Vent Pipe at the Flashing Cone The storm collar is installed by sliding it over the pipe and down to the flashing cone. Rain Cap and Vent Pipe Rust It's really hard to say if this was the leak source, or maybe water was getting inside the vertical seam and channel past the storm collar. Measure and cut the new vent to size. Were a bird to build a nest, it will block the vent and a safety switch in the furnace will sense the back pressure and shut off the furnace. The job is a lot easier with the help of an assistant.Article continues below this adArticle continues below this ad To maintain the effectiveness and safety of your heating system, it's important to remove and replace any outdated furnace roof venting. Your heating system can be kept secure and effective for many years by performing routine maintenance and adhering to the instructions provided here. Adaseal HVAC/R Silicone Caulk The HVAC contractor began the work by disconnecting the old vent pipe at the first joint below the roof deck in the attic. The storm collar is removed by cutting the caulk line with a utility knife and wiggling the collar up the pipe. Guide it along the ceiling using metal straps that are attached to the ceiling via nails. In any case, use the appropriate method to pry the pipes apart, a screwdriver is to be used to remove the screws and a knife to break the silicone caulk binding. One of these harmful agents is carbon monoxide, which in high concentration can cause death. Install a Carbon Monoxide DetectorProtect against carbon monoxide buildup by installing a detector. Use a Chimney CapInstall a cap to deter animals and debris from entering the venting. If the vent pipe uses a compression band, turn the compression band's screw clockwise with the correct screwdriver until the band squeezes the vent pipe. Make sure that you use an accurate scale to make these measurements. You can read about that project here. Slide a storm collar over the end of the vent pipe, keeping the storm collar's wide end facing down. Hart & Cooley 4RWH Type B Gas Vent (Rain Cap) The HVAC contractor used the Adaseal International, Inc. Caulking the Storm Collar The rain cap simply slides onto the vent pipe. The second vent stack is removed by the same procedure. I had the gas flue vents completely rebuilt, including the base flashing cones. Place additional screws every 4 inches around the vent pipe. Use a pry bar and hammer to remove the metal straps securing the vent pipe to the roof and ceiling framing. Apply roofing cement or caulk around the edges of the roof vent. Remove fasteners holding the rain cap in place. Push the male end of a new vent pipe up through the bottom of the roof flashing and set its female end on the male end of the vent pipe that connects to the gas furnace. The retaining collar at the bottom of the vent pipe inside the attic will not fit through the flashing cone, so the pipe must be pulled down. The vent is composed of many pieces of metal ducting joined together by silicone caulk and screws. It is continued from How to repair a leaky gas flue roof vent. Rusted Vent Pipe at the Rain Cap I obtained several proposals to replace the vent stacks from highly rated Heating and Air companies on Kudzu.com. The vents are a bit dented having been dropped off the roof onto the lawn. The screw tightens the compression band, which squeezes the cap's collar against the end of the vent pipe. New Gas Vent Stacks The old vent stacks were saved for inspection to see if there was an obvious source of the rain water leak. Fasten the vent into place using roofing nails or screws. To disconnect the pipe, just slide the retaining collar up and wiggle/lift the pipe to separate. Remove the screws holding the termination cap on the end of the vent pipe, using the correct size screwdriver to turn the screws counterclockwise. Lower the upper part until it is under the roof flashing. Cut through the roof mastic around the pipe area using a wood chisel and hammer. Given the extent of the corrosion, I decided the best option was to completely replace the vent stacks. The function of rain cap is to vent the combustion gases, help prevent back drafts, keep out rain and discourage birds from nesting in the flue vent. The top section with the rain cap is laying to the right in the photo below. Slide the vent pipe out of the roof flashing and into the attic. Screwdriver set Utility knife 1/4-inch self-tapping screw Electric drill High-temperature silicone Caulking gun Storm collar Termination cap A rusted gas furnace roof vent creates dangerous conditions inside the home. Regular InspectionsSchedule regular inspections by a professional HVAC technician to check for damage, blockage, or other issues. Separate the two sections of vent pipe, using the same method used to remove the termination cap from the roof's vent pipe. This article goes through the step-by-step process of replacing a roof vent. Type B gas vent pipe and roof flashings. Some termination caps use 1/4-inch-long screws that run through the termination cap's collar and penetrate the vent pipe's outer liner. The double-wall vent pipe is made in various lengths that snaps together. Make a rough sketch to estimate the number of elbow joints needed to guide the pipe to the outlet. I chose the low bidder, which included a written 100% satisfaction and 1 year guarantee in addition to be highly rated on Kudzu.com. Slip a termination cap's female end over the vent pipe's male end. Enter the attic area and locate the vent pipe joint nearest the roof flashing. A gas furnace uses a double-wall flue pipe for its vent. The bids were in the \$400 to \$600 range to replace the vent pipe starting at the first joint in the attic and all exterior roof components: vent pipe, flashing cone and rain cap. Run a 1/4- to 3/8-inch-thick bead of high-temperature silicone around the seam between the roof flashing and the vent pipe, using a caulking gun to apply the silicone. Use an extension ladder to reach the roof. Use a small saw to cut out the new hole, taking care not to make it too big. Measure the old vent's size and mark the center of the new one. I learned after the roofer resealed the vent stacks there was severe rusting under the rain cap that couldn't be seen from the ground. Don safety gear, including gloves and eye protection, and access your attic through the access panel or pull-down stairs. Choose the Right Type of VentingSelect venting suitable for your heating system and climate. It's 100% silicone rubber rated for 450°F. Installing the Rain Cap on the Roof Vent Pipe The vertical seam on the flashing cone was caulked with silicone and the vent stacks are spray painted black for appearance. Reviewed by on Jun 26, 2023 4-inch galvanized metal duct as per requirement Pipe crimping device Elbow joints Silicone caulk gun Galvanized metal strap Screwdriver Pliers A pair of thick rubber gloves A stable ladder 4-inch galvanized metal duct as per requirement Pipe crimping device Elbow joints Silicone caulk gun Galvanized metal strap Screwdriver Pliers A pair of thick rubber gloves A stable ladder Gas furnaces produce harmful gaseous products during combustion. The vents consist of circular or oblong pipe that attaches to a flange on the furnace and extends upward through an attic and passes through a roof flashing. Follow the steps below to properly replace your gas furnace vent.Step 1 - Take Appropriate PrecautionsTurn off your furnace before doing any form of work. The company manager double checked the 4" diameter vent pipe was properly sized to ensure condensation wasn't an issue and a 2-man crew came out the next day. The HVAC technician said the H&C product works well. Other termination caps use a compression band. Once clear of the flashing cone, the storm collar was cut in two with tin snips and pulled free of the vent pipe. Trim Nearby TreesKeep trees and branches away from your venting to prevent damage and animal entry. Detach the metal hangers that support the piping from the ceiling and remove the pipe. This is mandatory by law in some places and ensures that there are no leaks in the ducting. Proper InstallationEnsure correct installation to prevent future problems. Nail down a piece of flashing around its perimeter. He began by lifting the retaining collar and wiggling off the top section of vent pipe. If excess sealant on the vent pipe prevents the collar from sliding up, scrape the sealant off the vent pipe's outer liner with the utility knife. The 2-man crew arrived on time the next afternoon with complete inventory of Hart & Cooley, Inc. Pry the nails or screws loose and unwrap the straps from the vent pipe. Furnace vents remove fumes and combustion air that are generated by gas and oil-fired furnaces. Grip the vent pipe with one hand and the termination cap with the other hand. A clean bare metal surface is needed for a water tight caulk line. The storm collar is sealed with a generous bead of silicone and smoothed (radiused) with a finger. Lock the two sections of vent pipe together. Push the storm collar down the vent pipe until it touches the top of the roof flashing. Twist the roof's vent pipe clockwise one half turn with one hand, while holding the gas furnace's vent pipe still with the other hand. The screw is optional and must not penetrate inner section of the double wall pipe. HVAC/R silicone caulk to seal the vent flashings. Only after noting and double-checking your measurements should you purchase the material for the new duct.Step 4 - Install the Metal DuctUse the pipe crimper to attach one end of the metal duct to the exhaust outlet of the furnace. If the termination cap uses a compression band, turn the band's screw clockwise with the correct screwdriver until the band squeezes the cap's collar. The HVAC technician advised against it, explaining the cone was in good shape and he was concerned about the shingles being brittle in the cool (mid-40's) December weather. This will ensure that it doesn't produce toxic gases when you remove the vent pipe. The old caulk is trimmed and peeled away from the neck of the flashing cone with a utility knife. Furnace Vent Pipe in the Attic With one man working in the attic, the other HVAC technician went to the roof top to disassemble the vents. We'll walk you through the process of replacing the outdated furnace roof venting in this article, as well as provide advice on how to avoid further issues. Make sure that the piping doesn't sag between metal hangers and that the pipe does not sag at the furnace exhaust outlet. Always replace a gas furnace's roof vent with a compatible flue pipe, storm collar and termination cap. If the vent pipe does not use a compression band, run a 1/4-inch self-tapping screw through the roof vent pipe's collar with an electric drill. Ladder Pry bar Hammer Wood chisel Screwdriver or nut driver Gloves Safety glasses Dust mask Before beginning, ensure your furnace is turned off for your safety. Resealing the storm collar didn't fix the leak. Damage from WildlifeAnimals can damage venting, potentially leading to holes and cracks. Run an additional screw every 4 inches around the termination cap's collar. Pull the pipe out of the outlet socket in the wall and inlet socket on top of the furnace.Step 3 - Take a Few MeasurementsMeasure the required diameter and length of the metal ducting before purchasing it. To avoid leaks, use screws and silicone caulk to effectively connect the metal duct pieces together. A rusted area on a vent pipe not only lets rainwater enter the attic but also allows potentially dangerous downdrafts to push fumes into the home's living space. The shiny new pipe sections are shown in this photo. Cleaning Up the Flashing Cone Neck Flashing cone after cleaning the old caulk from the neck. This is done to ensure that the pipe leads the toxic gases up and out of the room.Step 5 - Finish Up What We StartedIt is advised that you call in a professional to inspect and approve your work. Type B Vent Pipe Hart & Cooley 4RWH Rain Cap - top view: Bottom view of the same. Remove both parts of the vent pipe from the attic. Even though it could seem like a difficult chore, taking the proper safeguards and processes can help the process go more smoothly. Several years after this repair the entire roof was replaced due to hail damage. The technician secured the rain cap with a short 1/4" sheet metal screw to ensure it doesn't blow off in a very strong wind. Rusted Vent Pipe The new Type B roof vents were installed only a day before a new cold front brought steady rain. Image Credit: Jupiterimages/Photos.com/Getty Images The constant exposure to weather weakens a gas furnace roof vent's outer liner and termination cap. Always replace a gas furnace's roof vent with a compatible flue pipe, storm collar and termination cap. Removing the Storm Collar from the Old Vent Pipe After removing the storm collar, the caulk line at the flashing cone is cut and the old pipe is pulled down into the attic. Professional Installation and RepairFor new installations or repairs, it's best to hire a professional HVAC technician. New Hart & Cooley, Inc. Lift the upper section of the vent and twist it from the lower portion. Ask someone to help you, as the pipe can be long and too much work for one person to handle. We originally planned to remove the old flashing cones. The inner liner carries the furnace's exhaust fumes outside, and the outer liner insulates and protects the inner liner. With the proper equipment, safety procedures, and understanding, removing and replacing outdated furnace roof venting is a straightforward undertaking. To avoid injuring your hands when handling the sharp metal duct, wear your rubber gloves at all times. Lift the storm collar off the vent pipe. The two vent stacks are also now equal height for a better appearance. Furnaces have vent pipes to avoid the building up of these gases in its operating area. The right vent stack in this photo continues to have a slow leak only when it rains. As old vent pipes develop leaks that can culminate into a health hazard, it is highly recommended that you replace them. The man in the attic then attaches the vent pipe existing lower section inside the attic. Maintain CleanlinessRegularly clear debris from the venting and the area around it. Use a screwdriver or nut driver to twist and remove the rain cap. We agreed to leave the flashing cones in place. If the termination cap's collar does not use a compression band, run a 1/4-inch self-tapping screw through the cap's collar with the electric drill. Exit the attic area and climb onto the roof. Type B Gas Furnace Roof Vents - Still Leaking The rusted vent pipe beneath the rain cap was unusual for galvanized pipe and could be a letting in rainwater. Cover the seam between the storm collar and the vent pipe with the high-temperature silicone, using the caulking gun to apply the silicone. It's also possible rain water was following the vertical seam down the pipe and getting inside.

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