

Question. I recently purchased a new clothes dryer and the installer would not connect it to the existing plastic ductwork for safety reasons . What do I need to connect the new dryer safely ?

Carol Wright , Chelsea

As a home inspector, something I frequently see is old, kinked, plastic dryer vent pipes. Manufacturers are now recommending that all **Vent pipes are made of metal**. Newer dryers create a higher heat that has been proven to cause fires and actually melt the plastic pipes. Metal ducting, the ridged type, is not only safer for all dryers; it will reduce the time it takes for your clothes to dry. The plastic pipe creates turbulence within the piping, as well as lint build-up which can ignite. This restricts the smooth flow of air which is needed for drying. So readers, check your dryer vent pipes and on a side note , " clean out that lint trap every time" !!!

Peter Weeks has been a Chelsea resident for 15 years. As a general contractor since 1988, he has been doing residential home inspections for about one year. He is an associate member of OAHI (Ontario Association of Home Inspectors), CAHPI (Canadian Association of Home & Property Inspectors) and a member of the BBB.

Forward your question to, Peter at [pwhi@sympatico.ca](mailto:pwhi@sympatico.ca) or by phone at 290.3697 .