

# Chimney 'cricket' needed to stop a leaking roof

**Q:** We have a persistent leak in our roof by the chimney. This leak is causing water damage to the ceiling by the fireplace in our living room. My husband's efforts to tar the edges between the roof and chimney help for a while but don't correct the problem. We

replaced the roof but that made no difference. Will a "saddle" from the roof to the chimney help? Our chimney is 4-foot-wide.

**A:** A cricket (also called a saddle) should solve the problem. Whenever the width of a chimney located along the slope of a roof is more than 2 feet, a cricket should join the roof and chimney.

The cricket prevents debris and snow and ice from piling up behind the chimney. This can cause rain or melting snow to back up under the shingles and leak into the house. The cricket also deflects water running down the roof around the chimney.

considering laying our own carpeting and would appreciate any suggestions you might have on working the stiff material into corners and around stair steps.

**Q:** We are unrolled, to let it "relax" and lose any wrinkles that resulted from rolling. If you have a large paved area, such as a driveway or patio, unroll the carpet outdoors, so the sun can warm and soften the backing. This will make the carpet more flexible.

If you are working in cold or wet weather, unroll the carpet in a basement or garage and let it lay loose for a day or two to lose its wrinkles.

Using heat from a hair dryer or heat gun will help make the carpeting as flexible as ordinary fabric and you'll be able to shape it easily. To submit a question, write to Popular Mechanics, Reader Service Bureau, 224 W. 57th St., New York, N.Y. 10019. The most interesting questions will be answered in a future column.

By Popular Mechanics For AP Special Features

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**Walled Lake**  
455 Chittarwood Ct  
203,000  
1176 Eddie St  
90,000  
120 Ladd Rd  
47,000  
1542 Mariner Dr  
75,000  
2177 Park Place Dr  
68,000  
895 S Pontiac Trl Apt  
126,000  
58,000  
514 Winwood Cir  
123,000

**West Bloomfield**  
1919 Bloomfield Oaks Dr  
1936 Bloomfield Oaks Dr  
263,000  
4220 Bunker Ave  
133,000  
7307 Danbury Dr  
266,000  
3681 Elder Rd S  
310,000  
3370 Green Lake Rd  
20,000  
1884 Heron View Dr  
170,000  
7092 Indian Creek Dr  
226,000  
6135 Lee Crest Dr  
182,000  
2244 Middlebelt Rd  
103,000  
2052 Moon Lake Dr  
140,000  
7480 Muersdale St  
175,000  
6816 Post Oak Dr  
183,000  
5431 Putnam Dr  
28,000  
5095 Sisanandoah Ct  
223,000  
6592 Steuch Dr  
48,000  
5026 Village Square Ct  
363,000  
2592 Water Oaks Dr  
228,000  
6176 Willow Rd  
210,000  
7210  
Woodlark Dr  
325,000

**White Lake**  
8858 Arlington St  
70,000  
8962 Attard Ln  
60,000  
9047 Gale Rd  
39,000  
9170 Gale Rd  
179,000  
9221 Hutchins St  
186,000  
11238 Lakelaven Dr  
168,000  
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108,000  
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