



Engineered Flame

Masonry Fireplace and Chimney Systems
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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Why should I choose a masonry fireplace over a metal fireplace?

Masonry fireplaces offer numerous benefits over a metal fireplace including:

- ✓ Substantial aesthetic advantage
- ✓ Far greater heating ability (heat reflection)
- ✓ Longer useful lifespan by more than double that of a metal box
- ✓ Masonry is far superior to metal for heat containment thereby reducing fire hazards
- ✓ Will not rust when exposed to the elements

2. Are there disadvantages of masonry/brick and mortar fireplaces?

A few potential disadvantages of a brick and mortar (traditional masonry) fireplace include:

- ✓ Significantly more expensive
- ✓ Reliance on the engineering skills of a mason cannot ensure a quality built, properly functioning fireplace
- ✓ Site built fireplaces can not be UL approved (Fire Rock is UL approved)

3. How does the heating property of traditional masonry compare with that of Fire Rock?

Traditional brick and mortar can actually absorb heat from the fire as well as expand and contract with varying temperature demands. This fluctuation in the fireplace will wear down more quickly. Fire Rock products are 'refractory', meaning the heat is actually reflected back into the home and the product does not expand and contract, thus promoting greater durability.

4. If I choose to spend the money for a masonry fireplace, why should I choose a pre-engineered component fireplace over a brick and mortar fireplace?

The pre-engineered nature of the Fire Rock system ensures a quicker, problem free installation resulting in proper draught every time and eliminates potential mason installation error.

5. How does the cost of Fire Rock compare to the cost of a site-built traditional brick and mortar fireplace?

Fire Rock is generally half the cost of site-built masonry.

6. How quickly can Fire Rock be installed?

Normal installations can be finished in one day. Complicated installations (stacked boxes, twisted flues, etc.) can be done in less than three days. A similar brick and mortar installation by a mason could take weeks.

7. What type of veneers can I put on a Fire Rock fireplace?

The superior insulating properties of the Fire Rock material allow it to be veneered with any non-combustible building material including; rock, brick, manmade stone, stucco, etc.

8. How do I get a Fire Rock fireplace installed?

The Environmental Kit is very easy to assemble by a professional or a homeowner.

9. What type of unique support is required for Fire Rock?

- ✓ Due to the finished weight of the product, the Fire Rock system requires the same type of support as a traditional brick and mortar fireplace.
- ✓ Fire Rock requires a non-combustible base. If built over a basement or crawl space, this can be accomplished either using concrete blocks or steel columns supporting a newly poured concrete pad. If Fire Rock is being installed on an existing slab, it requires a twelve-inch footing.

10. Does the inside of the firebox come finished, if not, what can I finish it with?

To achieve the finished look of true masonry, the Fire Rock product may be lined with firebrick. Some alternative materials are also available such as rock or stone. Firebrick may be purchased directly from your local Fire Rock distributor.

11. What about U.L. or IBC compliance?

Fire Rock has been approved for U.L. 127 by testing performed at Warnock Hersey Labs. U.L. certification testing includes a freeze thaw test to insure the system will not deteriorate from exposure to weather fluctuations. At this time, Fire Rock has not yet applied for IBC approval.