

ITEMS YOU CAN PROTECT IN YOUR HOME FIRE SAFE:

Guns - Car Titles - Cash - Photo Albums - Insurance Papers - Jewelry - Wills - Ammo - Birth Certificates - Videos - Silver - Gold - Bank & Stock Statements - Computer Discs - Check Books - Stamp Collections - Coin Collections - Card Collections - Cameras - Camcorders - Knives - Laptop Computers - Heirlooms - & More . . .

Q. What good is a product that is rated Class 350 or Class 125? Fires get much hotter than 350°F or 125°F.

A. The UL class rating signifies the maximum internal temperature allowed during the fire test. Depending on the length of the UL fire test, the external heat to which the product is subjected will range from 1550°F to 2000°F; yet the internal temperatures cannot exceed 350°F or 125°F- for paper or computer media, respectively.

Q. Is a one hour fire safe good enough?

A. The average fire burns near 850°F. As the fire moves throughout the building, it's intensity changes as flammable objects start to burn. Fires burn on average about 20 minutes in any location. This intense burn is equal to the burning part of the UL testing phase. After the flammable items are burnt in the fire the temperature decreases, leaving things inside the fire to soak up the radiating heat. This area of the fire is similar to the cooling part of the UL testing phase. Depending on the safe that is being tested, the cooling phase of the test can last as long as 15-25 hours, in which the internal temperature and humidity levels will not exceed the standards set forth by the testing. Most products that fail the UL test fail during this cool down period. Remember, a one-hour rating means the safe will also withstand the cooling process.

Q. Why should I buy a document protection safe?

A. Though fire insurance is available, a lot of people who suffer fires found out the hard way that insurance will only pay for losses that can be documented. If your records are lost, you must still be able to prove to the insurance company exactly what you lost and what it was worth before they will pay out. People have also found out that some items can never be totally restored or replaced, even if the insurance company pays. Contracts, personnel files, blueprints, vendor documents, client documents, accounts receivable and payable... Can you afford to lose these important irreplaceable things? More importantly your personal belongings like passports, tax documents, wedding and divorce papers, birth certificates, baby pictures, living will, and personal treasures should all be well secured at your home.

Q. Why do I need a special product for computer media? Don't fire files and safes protect everything?

A. Fire files and safes are available with different ratings, because paper and media require different forms of protection. During a fire, paper is more durable than media and can tolerate heat up to 420°F before igniting. However, paper will dry out and become brittle when exposed to heat. So, the paper rated file or safe is designed to release a little steam inside to combat the heat's drying effect when the internal temperature nears 300°F. Media such as diskettes, CDs, and tapes cannot tolerate either the higher temperature or the humidity levels found in the paper rated products. They must be stored in an environment that will stay below 125°F and 80% humidity in order to be protected.

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