

## Brick Homes Fight Fires The Longest

(NAPSI)—Firefighters report that it takes about an hour and a half for a fire to breach a brick home—as compared to fiber cement in under an hour and vinyl siding in just minutes.

Choosing brick exteriors to protect their own firehouses, firefighters say brick homes help slow the spread, offering the extra few minutes to help save lives and property as this brief video shows.



**Building your house of brick is a good way to protect your home and family from fire.**

While the International Residential Code (IRC) does not require cladding on single-family homes to have a fire rating, the International Building Code (IBC) acknowledges that fired-clay brick has tested to provide a minimum one-hour fire resistance rating alone, regardless of backing material. This is something that synthetic materials—such as fiber cement—cannot claim.

Primarily made of clay, brick is classified as a noncombustible material that will not burn, melt or combust.

In a one-hour severe fire test conducted independently for the Brick Industry Association (BIA), vinyl siding burned after only 18 minutes, fiber cement failed within one hour and fired-clay brick withstood the flames after one hour. The test was conducted in accordance with ASTM E119, the Standard Test Methods for Fire Tests of Building Construction and Materials.

### Learn More

BIA is the nationally recognized authority on clay brick construction representing the nation's distributors and manufacturers of clay brick and suppliers of related products. To learn more, go to Fire Prevention at [www.gobrick.com](http://www.gobrick.com).