

# HINTS FOR HOMEOWNERS

## Homeowners Crack The Safe Market

(NAPSA)—If you're like most Americans, you rely on insurance to cover the replacement costs of valuable items in your home. But what about irreplaceable pieces, heirlooms and important documents and photos?

Experts say that's where safes come in. New types of safes can withstand house fires, have locks that can't be picked or drilled, and can match the existing decor in a home. All safes, however, are not created equal. Here are some factors to consider when choosing a safe:

### House Fires

The U.S. Fire Administration says 1.6 million fires were reported in one year alone, with direct property loss totaling more than \$10 billion. That's why it's a good idea to choose a safe that's been certified as fire rated by independent laboratories. Liberty Safe, for instance, offers safes that are rated to protect most items and documents from a typical 1,200-degree house fire for up to 2.5 hours.

### Theft

Police say that most home robberies are of the "smash and grab" variety, where thieves get their job done in 10 minutes or less. Safes can help deter these crimes.

Experts say to look for safes with extra layers of hard metal behind the door combination lock to prevent drilling. You can also find top-of-the-line models from Liberty Safe that have ball bearings installed inside triple-layered metal plates. The ball bearings chew up drill bits, virtually eliminating forced entry. The safes are also made using a robotic-welded



**It's a good idea to use a safe that's specifically rated to protect it from home fires.**

design that provides protection against pry attacks. The company even hires experienced safecrackers to test safe security.

### Appearance

Safes aren't just for the basement. You can find decorative—but effective—safes that can be used in most any room of the house. Additionally, some safes are available with decorative finishes and detailing, making them suitable centerpieces, or with 4-in-1 Flex interior storage systems that let users customize the safe interior in four different ways.

For more information, visit [www.libertysafe.com](http://www.libertysafe.com) or call (800) 247-5625.