

◆ Since 1979 ◆

Pennsylvania Firebacks™

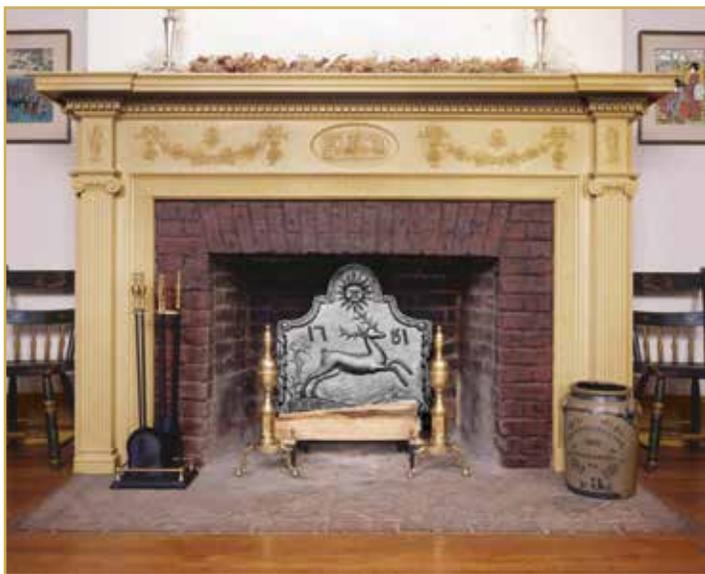
◆ ELEGANCE AND UTILITY ◆ QUALITY THAT ENDURES ◆



— Made in U.S.A. —

Pennsylvania Firebacks™

◆ THE ART OF WARMING ◆



In 1979, J. Del Conner, and *Pennsylvania Firebacks*, revitalized this all but forgotten art form with the introduction of original Firebacks made for contemporary fireplaces. Elegant design and castings of heirloom quality are the hallmarks of this unique collection.

Pennsylvania Firebacks is also proud to offer its collection of beautifully detailed museum quality reproductions of antique Firebacks. Honored with an award for technical excellence following the premiere of this collection, *Pennsylvania Firebacks* leads the way in bringing the best of the past into the future.



In earlier times, the well appointed fireplace was never considered complete unless it included a cast iron Fireback. Today, the Fireback's usefulness and charms have been rediscovered, and are again at the center of hearth and home.



Positioned against the back wall of the hearth, a Fireback protects the masonry of the wall and radiates the heat of the fire forward.

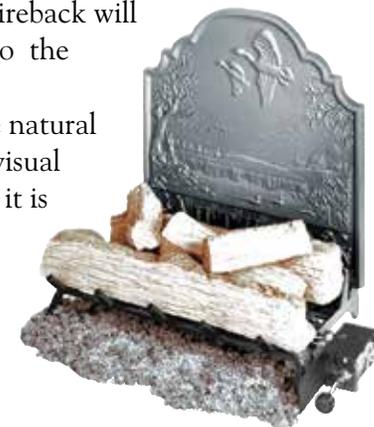
By reflecting light and heat from the fire out into the room, a Fireback is a noticeable improvement to a hearth. This warmth is gained whether a Fireback is used with wood fires or remote controlled gas log units.



A cast iron Fireback is still the best way to protect a hearth's back wall from decay. Despite advances in technology, the harsh rays of a fire render even modern refractory bricks vulnerable to damage and the likelihood of expensive repairs. A Fireback will effectively prevent any further damage to the back wall.

As a sculptural accent in what is the natural focal point of a home, a Fireback lends visual warmth and interest to a home whether it is with a roaring fire, an attractive spotlight, or by soft candlelight.

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SMALL ORIGINAL DESIGNS



Night Horse SF11
21½" w., 18" h., 5/8" d., 48 lbs.

Under a crescent moon, a cantering horse is pictured by a stream as it eclipses the stars of the constellation Pegasus. This Fireback's curvaceous frame and rope molding lend it a distinctive originality.



Fleur-De-Lis ZF04
17¼" w., 14¼" h., 5/8" d., 24 lbs.

Used in heraldic art, some maintain that the fleur-de-lis represents the lily, others the head of a lance. The pistils of these fleur-de-lis clearly make this a Fireback of flowers.



Small Oak ZF01
18" w., 16" h., 7/8" d., 33 lbs.

Same motif as the Great Oak, but designed for today's prefab and smaller fireplaces. A homage to all that we receive from the tree, a symbol of strength and durability.



Plain Great Oak SF08
18" w., 20" h., 7/8" d., 41 lbs.

The oak tree is a symbol of strength, and durability, making it a natural emblem and focal point of the hearth.



Dated Great Oak SF08-D
18" w., 20" h., 7/8" d., 44 lbs.

Reintroducing the custom of marking a Fireback with a date, the Great Oak has been available with the current date since 1980.



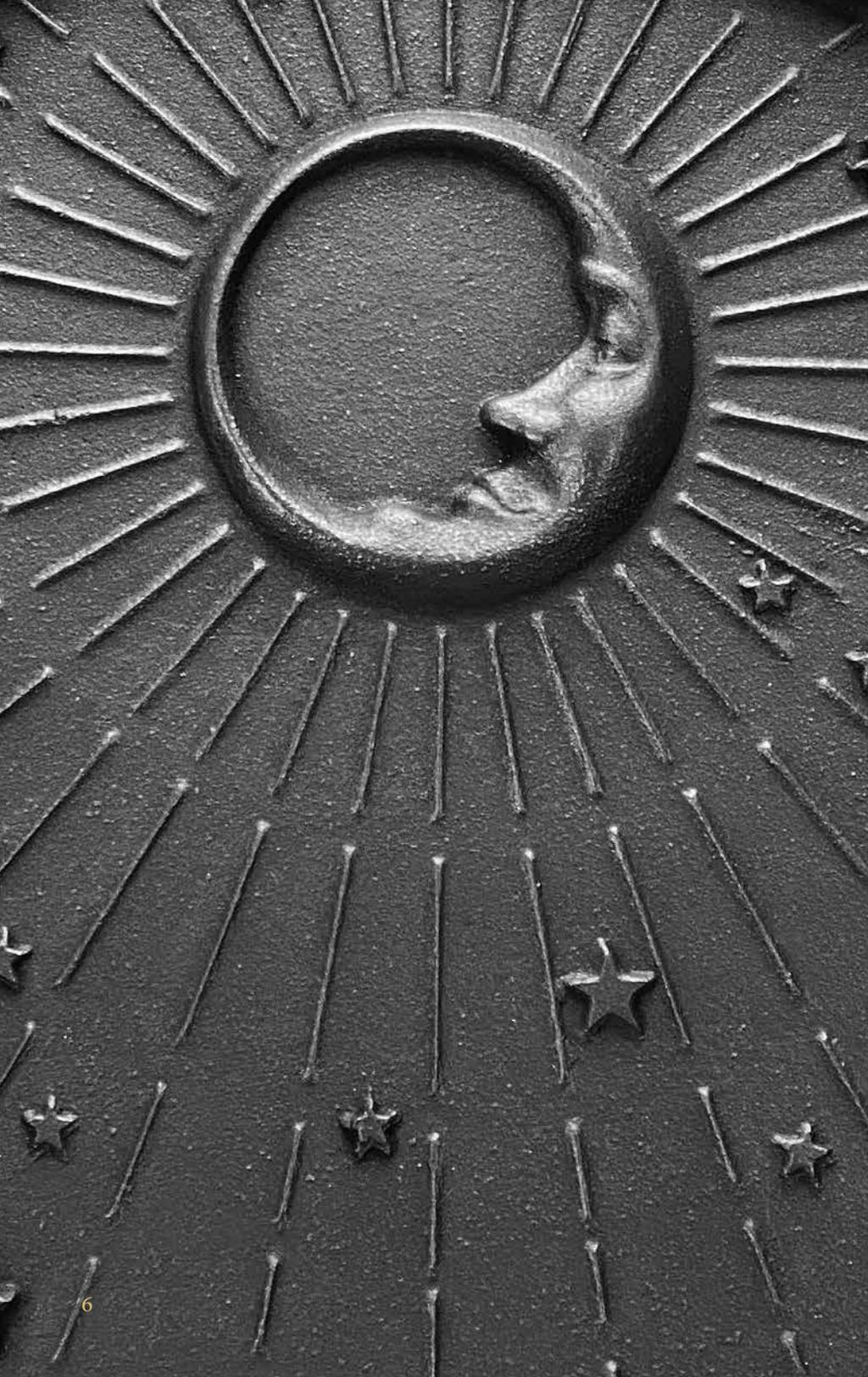
Parthenon ZF03
17¼" w., 17¾" h., 1" d., 35 lbs.

The integrity and beauty of this classic model has inspired centuries of western architects to incorporate it into their designs.



Small American Eagle ZF02
20" w., 15¾" h., 5/8" d., 31 lbs.

Designed for a smaller hearth, this Fireback with fifty stars, was created in 1982 to commemorate the two-hundredth anniversary of the American Bald Eagle's use on the Great Seal of the United States.



MEDIUM ORIGINAL DESIGNS



North Star SF07
 21 1/2" w., 19 1/4" h.,
 5/8" d. 49 lbs.

The Moon shows the rule of how to find Polaris, the North Star, in the handle of the Little Dipper, by using the "pointer stars" in the bowl of the Big Dipper. The stationary North Star appears to rule the heavens.



Franklin Sun SF02
 18" w., 21 1/2" h.,
 7/8" d., 44 lbs.

This Fireback was the first design created for the production of our original Firebacks in 1979. "Alter Idem" or "Another the Same"... "warms when we please, and just as we desire" is from Franklin's stove.



We the People LE02
 18" w., 21 3/4" h.,
 5/8" d., 41 lbs.

Celebrating the U.S. Constitution, the artist is a descendant of Philip Syng Jr., silversmith who crafted the Independence Hall inkstand.



Small Clipper Ship SF22
 18 5/8" w, 21" h.,
 3/4" d., 63 lbs.

A fast American clipper ship returns to port greeted by seagulls. This detailed Fireback pays tribute to the age of sail.

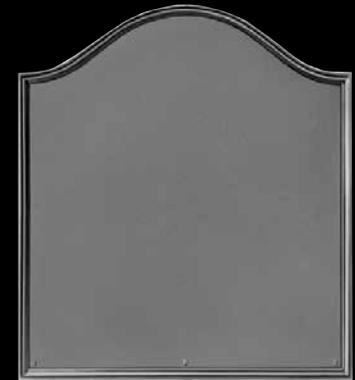
MEDIUM ORIGINAL DESIGNS



Three Bears SF12

20" w., 17" h.,
3/4" d., 49 lbs.

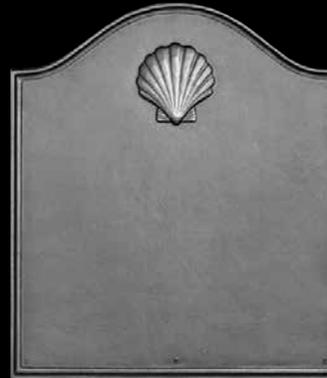
Bears, butterflies, and bees by a brook with box turtle, bird, berries, and bark make this a back filled with detail. One could imagine this Fireback telling a variety of stories during long dreamy fires of winter.



Plain Panel SF06

19" w., 21 1/2" h.,
7/8" d., 59 lbs.

The Plain Panel Fireback displays a simple elegance indicative of the decorative arts created during the Georgian Period (1714-1800).



Georgian Shell SF04

19" w., 21 1/2" h.,
7/8" d., 49 lbs.

During the Georgian Period (1714-1800), the unadorned cockle shell was a popular motif with Rhode Island furniture makers.



Pineapple SF05

19" w., 21 1/2" h.,
7/8" d., 49 lbs.

Indicative of the decorative arts created during the Georgian Period (1714-1800), the pineapple, symbol of hospitality, was especially popular with makers of objects in this period.



MEDIUM ORIGINAL DESIGNS



Urn of Lilies SF03
 17⁷/₈" w., 21¹/₄" h.,
 7⁷/₈" d., 37 lbs.

A classical urn of lilies on a pedestal with three bees. Bringing the warmth of spring to deepest winter, urns and flowers have long been a popular motif for Fireback and stove plate ornamentation.



Halley's Comet LE01
 19" w., 21¹/₂" h.,
 7⁷/₈" d., 49 lbs.

Marking the night Halley's Comet crossed the celestial equator, New Year's Eve 1985. On that night, the comet entered the overflowing bowl of Aquarius the water bearer.



Bass SF10
 19" w., 19¹/₂" h.,
 3³/₄" d., 46 lbs.

This Fireback tells the story of a sunrise which inspires a turtle to climb on a log, to bask in the warmth, which puts two dragon flies to flight, causing the Bass to show itself to soaring eagles, and an approaching fisherman.



Sunrise Rooster SF19
 21¹/₂" w., 21¹/₂" h.,
 5⁵/₈" d., 55 lbs.

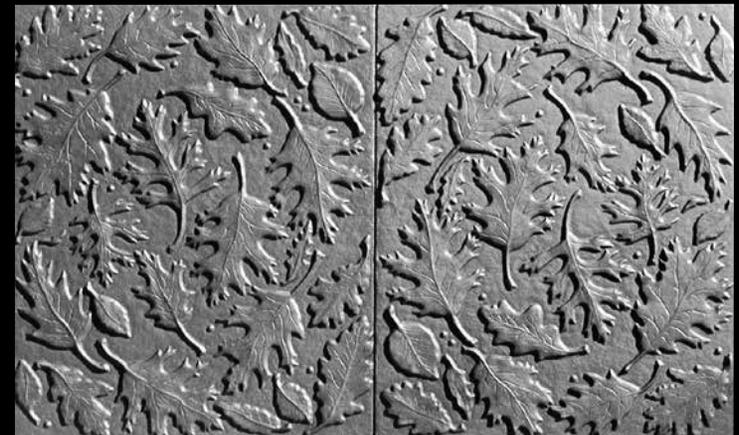
A reworking of the Aetna Furnace casting of the 1770's, reducing the height by four and a half inches. A perfect theme for a kitchen backsplash.

MEDIUM TO LARGE ORIGINAL DESIGNS



Field of Leaves SF15
21¹/₈" x 17⁵/₈" x 5/8" d., 54 lbs.

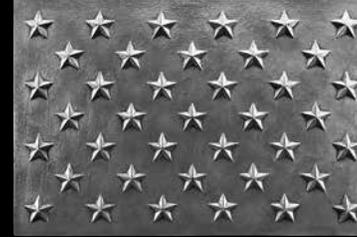
A swirling pattern of oak and beech leaves. A flexible contemporary design paying homage to the fuel of the fire. This Fireback can be used in a horizontal or vertical position, alone or with others to create a variety of sizes.



Field of Leaves SF15
21¹/₈" h., 35¹/₄" w. (two 17⁵/₈" w., 54 lbs. each)

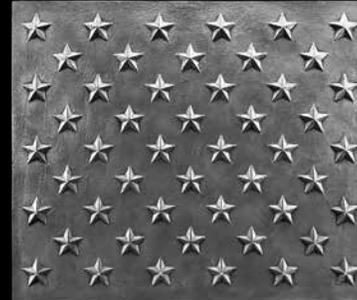
Use alone, or with others side by side to create a variety of sizes.

SMALL TO LARGE ORIGINAL DESIGNS



14" Field of Stars SF14
21½" x 14¼" x ½" d., 34 lbs.

Use in a horizontal or vertical position, alone or with others to create a variety of sizes. Its thin profile is a perfect fit in a Rumford fireplace.

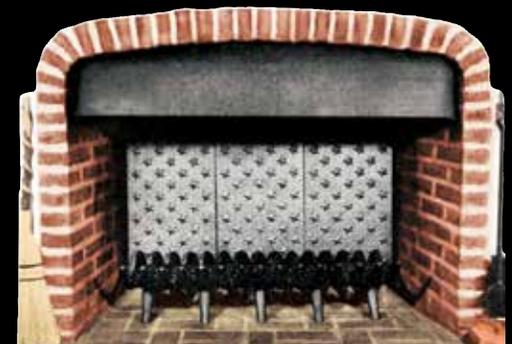


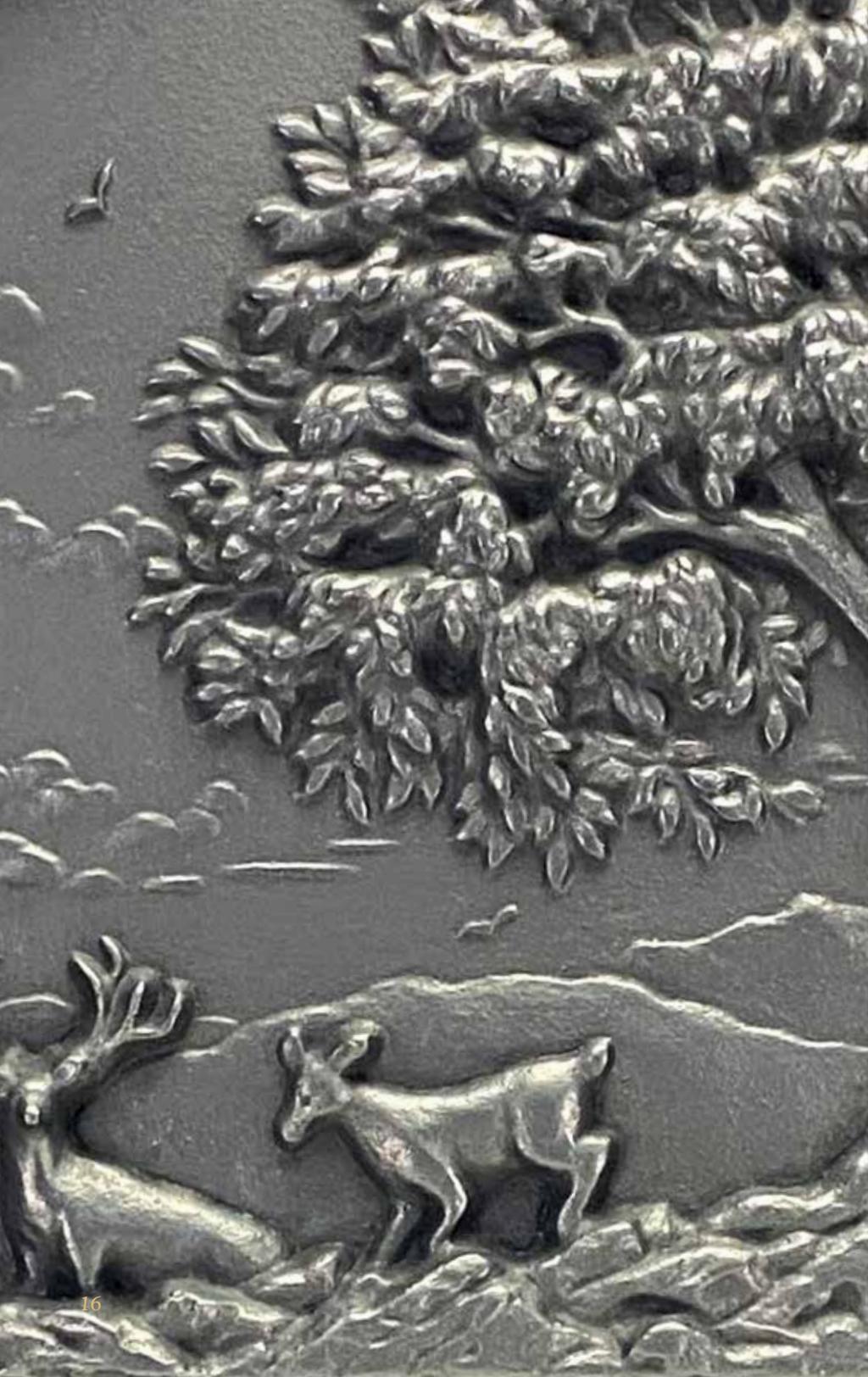
18" Field of Stars SF18
21½" x 18" x ½" d., 40 lbs.

Field of fifty stars from the flag of the United States of America. Use in a horizontal or vertical position, alone or with others to create a variety of sizes.



Pictured to the right is a fireplace with three 14" Field of Stars Firebacks creating an impressive 42¾" wide Fireback on two pairs of Saf-T-Boots.





LARGE ORIGINAL DESIGNS



American Eagle SF01

20 1/2" w., 21 1/2" h., 5/8" d., 46 lbs.

A traditional American Eagle holding an olive branch, arrows, and banner, with a sunburst of seven major and six minor rays piercing the clouds in a field of fifty stars. This Fireback was created in 1982 to commemorate the two-hundredth anniversary of the American Bald Eagle's use on the Great Seal of the United States.



Mountain View SF13

21 1/2" w., 21 1/2" h., 7/8" d., 56 lbs.

A romantic rocky hilltop view of distant mountains, and a flock of geese framed by intertwining limbs of trees.



Tall Oak SF20

21 1/2" w, 21 1/2" h., 1" d., 590 lbs.

The Tall Oak, with highly detailed elements, was designed to complete the range of sizes offered in our line of oak-themed Firebacks.



LARGE ORIGINAL DESIGNS



Spring SF09-S

21½" w., 21½" h., 7/8" d., 55 lbs.

Nature's renewal is celebrated in this charming Fireback. Children delight in the warmth of spring with ten birds, two rabbits, two deer, and an advancing turtle.



Autumn SF09-A

21½" w., 21½" h., 7/8" d., 60 lbs.

By the light of the harvest moon, a farmer pauses for reflection, as a flight of geese pass by. Filling out this romantic scene are ducks, a squirrel, a turtle, a red-winged blackbird, and the awakening owl.



Winter SF09-W

21½" w., 21½" h., 7/8" d., 58 lbs.

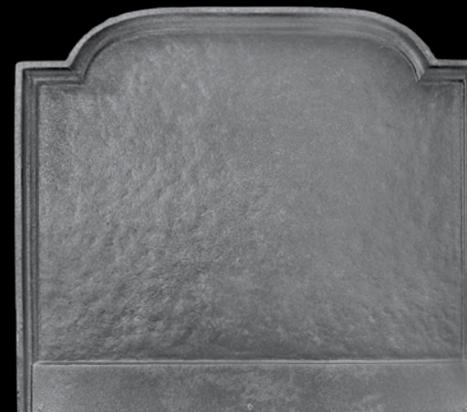
Romance under the rising stars of Orion, the Hunter, with his dogs Sirius and Procyon confronting the retreating bull Taurus, while Lepus, the Hare, is hiding just above the horizon.

EXTRA LARGE ORIGINAL DESIGNS



Bear Mountain SF24
23 ³/₄" w., 20 ³/₄" h., ⁷/₈" d., 77 lb.

A Black Bear descends the mountain slope with a waxing crescent moon and hawks in the background, while watched by a bunny and birds in the foreground.



Classic Plain Panel SF23
23 ³/₄" w., 20 ³/₄" h., ⁷/₈" d., 76 lb.

This Fireback fits the needs of a hearth with a size in-between our Plain Panel, and Large Plain Panel Firebacks. With a traditional frame, this Fireback's antique texture lends to its visual warmth.



Heron SF25
23 ³/₄" w., 20 ³/₄" h., ⁷/₈" d., 69 lb.

A Blue Heron wades in shallow water with reeds and water lilies, while watched by dragonflies, and a frog. In the sky is another heron and a waning crescent moon.

EXTRA LARGE ORIGINAL DESIGNS



Large Oak LF01
 27⁷/₈" w., 25³/₄" h.,
 1" d., 106 lbs.

The largest of the original designs, this substantial Fireback will be the focal point of the hearth. The oak tree is a symbol of strength and durability.



Large Plain Panel LF02
 27³/₄" w., 24¹/₄" h., 1" d., 80 lbs.

The Large Plain Panel Fireback displays a simple elegance indicative of the decorative arts created during the Georgian Period (1714-1800).



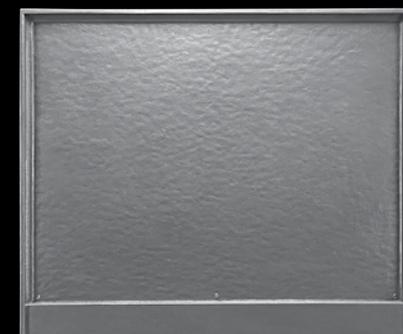
Large Clipper Ship LF03
 27³/₄" w., 24³/₈" h., 1" d., 104 lbs.

Passing a cape's light house, a fast American clipper returns to port greeted by seagulls and a pilot ship to guide it safely to harbor. A message in a bottle bobs to be found another day.



Large Raised Panel LF05
 27³/₄" w., 24³/₈" h., 7/8" d., 99 lbs.

The Large Raised Panel Fireback displays a classic elegance.



Large Plain Rectangle LF06
 27³/₄" w., 23³/₄" h., 7/8" d., 78 lbs.

This Fireback will fit the needs of a large hearth. With a traditional frame, this Fireback's antique texture lends to its visual warmth.

Pennsylvania Firebacks™

ANTIQURE REPRODUCTIONS



Founded by Henry Francis DuPont, Winterthur is the premier Museum of American Decorative Arts. Pennsylvania Firebacks was honored to have made patterns from their collection and to have received the Museum's Technical Excellence Award for Historic Reproductions.



Catoctin Furnace AF04

22⁷/₈" w., 21³/₄" h.,
1¹/₈" d., 57 lbs.

Located near present day Camp David, Catoctin Furnace was built in 1775-1776 by Thomas Johnson, the first governor of Maryland. Benjamin Blackford and Thomas Thornburgh were partners in this Maryland foundry from 1801 to 1812.



Joseph Webb Stag AF01

26¹/₄" w., 28¹/₄" h.,
7⁷/₈" d., 92 lbs.

This Fireback's prominently arched top and highly detailed border are features which distinguish it from more traditional American Fireback frames. A trade card engraved by Paul Revere for Webb's store located it as being "near Oliver's Dock."

WINTERTHUR REPRODUCTIONS



Eagle and Shield AF03

17¹/₄" w., 25¹/₂" h.,
5⁵/₈" d., 63 lbs.

With the adoption of the Great Seal of the United States in 1782, the American bald eagle was applied to numerous household items. Probably cast in England between 1785 and 1810. Our reproduction Fireback is on display at The Museum of The American Revolution in Philadelphia.



Pine Grove Furnace AF02

21" w., 25³/₄" h.,
5⁵/₈" d., 59 lbs.

This Fireback was cast at Pine Grove furnace between the years 1770 and 1780. Located in south central Pennsylvania, Pine Grove Furnace was built in 1770 by Robert Thornburg, and John Arthur. Pine Grove Furnace operated until 1864. It is now a state park and historic site.



Aetna Rooster AF05

22" w., 26" h.,
3³/₄" d., 57 lbs.

Popular as a decorative element in the late eighteenth century, the rooster had long been a symbol of victory. This was cast no later than 1775 at the first of two Aetna furnaces located in southern New Jersey, near present day Medford Lakes.

ANTIQUE REPRODUCTIONS



Stiegel Stove Plate SP02
 22 ³/₄" w., 18 ⁷/₈" h., ⁷/₈" d., 55 lbs.

This side plate from a dismantled five plate stove was cast at the Elizabeth Furnace, Pennsylvania. Henry William Stiegel, founded the Furnace, and the town of Manheim in Lancaster County. Stiegel is better known today for his glass ware.



Hereford Stove Plate SP01
 22 ³/₄" w., 23 ¹/₄" h., ³/₄" d., 62 lbs.

This side plate from a dismantled five plate stove was used for many years as a Fireback. In 1745 Thomas Maybury founded Hereford Furnace. From 1757 to 1764, William Maybury managed Hereford Furnace.



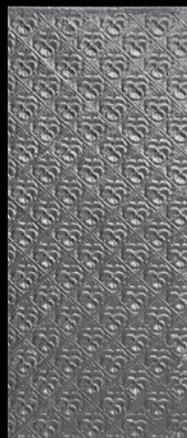
Two Doves ZF05
 16 ⁵/₈" w., 16 ³/₄" h.
 1 ¹/₂" d., 30 lbs.

This Fireback was rescued from a demolition site of an old Philadelphia mansion.



Belgium AF07
 21 ¹/₄" w., 26 ¹/₈" h., ⁵/₈" d., 83 lbs.

Cast in Belgium in the nineteenth century, this Fireback's prominent arched top lends it a distinct European flavor.



Floral Panel FP01-S
 14 ⁵/₈" w., 29 ¹/₂" h.
⁷/₁₆" d., 47 lbs.

This Fireback can be used in a vertical or horizontal position. The thin profile of the Floral Panel makes it a perfect fit for a Rumford fireplace.

SAF-T-BOOT FIREBACK SUPPORTS

Pennsylvania Firebacks can be easily installed in a hearth with a pair of cast iron Saf-T-Boot Fireback supports.

The Saf-T-Boot's unique step design enables a Fireback to be held safely, leaning slightly back, upright, or forward at a number of angles against the back wall of the hearth.

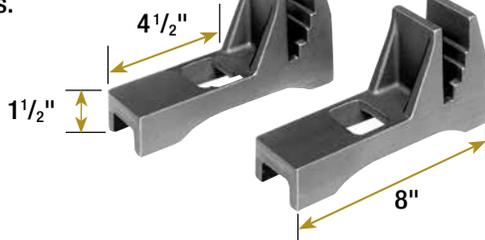
Saf-T-Boots and your Fireback can be used with most cast iron grates, wrought iron grates, andirons, or gas log systems.

Saf-T-Boots SB3

1 1/2" - 2" - 2 1/2" - 3" steps

8 1/4" deep,

10 lbs.

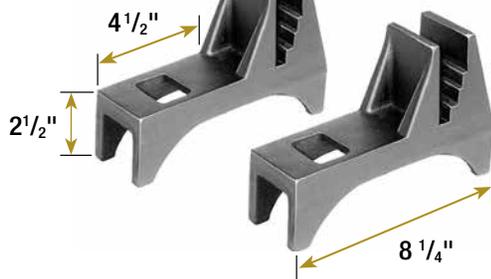


Saf-T-Boots SB4

2 1/2" - 3" - 3 1/2" - 4" steps

8 3/4" deep,

12 lbs.



Saf-T-Boots are sold as a pair.

Note: Only Small Eagle Fireback and Field of Stars Firebacks fit the lowest step.

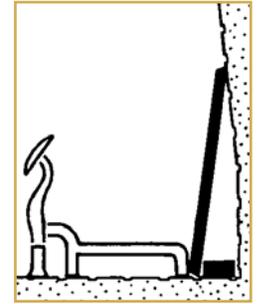
BEFORE USING A PENNSYLVANIA FIREBACK™

FREE STANDING:

To insure the proper balance when used free standing in a hearth, the bottom of your Fireback must always be closer to you than the top.

To prevent the top of your Fireback from falling forward, place bricks or other suitable non-flammable spacers between the back wall and bottom of the Fireback. The spacers should be thick enough to insure that the bottom of the Fireback can not be pushed out of balance.

DO NOT USE your Fireback with a "Wall of Fire" type grate or lean burning logs against it.



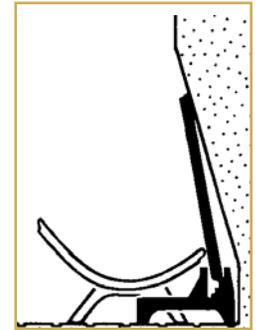
Free Standing

SUPPORTED:

A Fireback can be safely supported in a hearth using the Saf-T-Boot support system.

In hearths with forward leaning back walls, the Saf-T-Boot's patented step design enables a Fireback to be supported at a variety of angles. Saf-T-Boots can be used with any standard grate, andirons, or gas log system.

DO NOT USE with a "Wall of Fire" type grate or lean burning logs against your Fireback.



Saf-T-Boots Supports

MAINTENANCE:

With use, your Fireback can be cleaned in place with a wire brush. To protect your Fireback and give it a bright, durable, and easy to maintain finish in the hearth, it is recommended that a coat of Stove Polish or Stove Black be applied. With use, a periodic spot touch-up coat of polish can be applied in place to your Fireback.

WARRANTY:

Pennsylvania Firebacks are conditionally guaranteed against defects in the quality of materials and labor for a period of 5 years from date of purchase.

THINK SAFETY FIRST:

Contact your local certified chimney sweep from the National Chimney Sweep Guild to perform a safety check on your chimney and hearth.

POLISHING A FIREBACK

Excess paint on a new Fireback can be removed with medium or coarse sandpaper.

After use, rust, ash or creosote on your Fireback can easily be removed with a wire brush or steel wool.

For a brightly polished, durable, and easy to maintain finish in the hearth, apply Stove Polish or Stove Black.

Materials Needed:
Stove Polish or Stove Black, a brush, and a small container.



Uniformly apply Stove Polish with a toothbrush or small scrub brush, starting with the backside.



When dry, remove excess paste or polish with a rag or wire brush.



INSTALLING A PENNSYLVANIA FIREBACK

HANDLE YOUR FIREBACK WITH CARE.

Cast iron is fragile and will crack or break if treated improperly.

Edges and corners can be sharp.

INSPECT IT:

When you first remove your Fireback from its box, examine it carefully for cracks or other damage. Minor imperfections are inherent in the sand casting process. No two castings are identical.

ABOUT THE FINISH:

The Fireback has been dipped in a water-based paint to inhibit rust during storage and transportation. It is not a display finish.

THE FACTORY APPLIED FINISH IS NOT INTENDED FOR DISPLAY.

Paint bubbles, streaks or imperfections will wear off with use or can be removed with a wire brush, steel wool or sandpaper. Bare spots can be covered with Stove Polish.

If the shipping box is exposed to moisture in transportation or following delivery, surface rust *may* appear on your Fireback. This surface rust can easily be removed with a wire brush, steel wool or sandpaper. Stove Polish should then be applied.

For use in a hearth, a coat of Stove Polish or Stove Black paste is recommended. Stove Polish or Stove Black can be applied over the factory applied finish. Lightly sanding the high spots of the Fireback's factory applied finish with a medium sandpaper is recommended before applying polish. With use, a periodic spot touch-up coat of Stove Polish can be applied in place to your Fireback.

For use of a Fireback behind a cooktop, or as a wall plaque, a coating of Rust-Oleum like metal primer and finish spray paint can be used. An alternative is to have a Fireback professionally powder coated.

CURE IT:

A new Fireback must be cured. The gentle process of building three small successive fires will cure the iron for future use. **Rapid expansion of uncured cast iron can cause a Fireback to crack due to excessive initial heating. This also applies to a cold outdoor Fireback that had been previously cured.**

WARNING:

- DO NOT lean burning logs against your Fireback.
- DO NOT use your Fireback with a "Wall of Fire" type grate.
- DO NOT expose your Fireback to coal fires.
- DO NOT expose your Fireback to water or oil.

FIREBACK BACKSPLASH



For use as a kitchen backsplash, Firebacks can be given a number of different finishes.

Painted: After a light sanding of the factory applied black paint to remove loose or excess paint, a Fireback can be spray painted any color with a Rust-Oleum like paint. A high heat spray paint can also be applied.

After sandblasting, a clear coat of spray paint can be applied for a natural grey iron finish.

Powder Coated: For a durable, easy to clean finish, a powder coated finish can be applied, after sandblasting by a powder coating service.



BACKSPLASH INSTALLATION



There are a variety of ways a cast iron Fireback can be mounted behind a kitchen cooktop.

Leaned: A Fireback can simply be leaned against the wall if there is a shelf behind the cooktop. A thin spacer must be placed behind the bottom of the Fireback and the wall to insure that proper balance is maintained.

Glued: A Fireback can be glued to Hardi board with industrial, or construction, high strength flexible adhesive such as Loctite PL8x Premium.

A temporary support board, or a permanent angle iron, can be attached to the wall, where the bottom of the Fireback is to be mounted.

A generous amount of glue is applied to the back of the Fireback, then set in place resting on the support board.

A temporary holding board placed vertically in the center of the Fireback is then screwed in place to hold the Fireback tight against the wall.

Shims are added and made tight between the Fireback and the holding board. The support and holding boards should be left in place for at least twenty-four hours, or until the glue is set.



BACKSPLASH INSTALLATION



Straps: A Fireback can be mounted to studs behind Greenboard or Hardi board with metal straps and screws. The back of the Fireback can be tapped, then half the length of the metal straps can be attached to it with metal screws. The other half of the metal straps are then attached over the Greenboard or Hardi board to the framing studs behind them with wood screws. To insure a flat surface for the tile installation, the area of the straight metal strapping should be scooped out of the Greenboard or Hardi board to the appropriate depth.



Screws or Bolts: A Fireback can have holes drilled to match the framing studs for screwing, or bolting it to Greenboard or Hardi board. The holes for screw mounting should be counter sunk to provide a flush surface. All holes should be slightly larger than the screw or bolt shaft used to allow for expansion and contraction of the iron.



Hangman Heavy-Duty Mirror & Picture Hangers: Similar to the metal strapping above, the back of the Fireback can be tapped and metal screws used to attach one of the pieces to it. The matching piece is attached to the stud of the framing behind the Greenboard or Hardi board with wood screws. To insure a flat surface for the tile installation, the area of the hangers should be scooped out of the Greenboard or Hardi board to the appropriate depth.



Brackets: Metal brackets can be used to secure the Fireback to a surface that can hold its weight. Mounting brackets come in a variety of styles and sizes, or can be custom made by a blacksmith.



Angle Iron and Glue: Similar to the gluing method above, a steel angle iron can be mounted to framing studs behind the Greenboard or Hardi board to act as a permanent support for heavier Firebacks.

OTHER FIREBACK USES



House Plaque

Any Fireback can be mounted outside and finished with Rust-Oleum.



In The Garden

Bear Mountain Fireback finished with Rust-Oleum Primer and Black Spray paint. Stag Fireback buried deep with a natural rust patina.



Outdoor Fireplace

A Fireback in an outdoor fireplace.



Stove Heat Shield

To protect a wall, and generate more heat, a Fireback, on reversed Saf-T-Boots, can be placed next to a stove.



Decorative

In the off-season a freshly polished Fireback looks great in front of the hearth leaning back on a reversed pair of Saf-T-Boots.

A Fireback is the perfect aesthetic addition for a fireplace, or mantel, used for display only.



Pennsylvania Firebacks™