

Natural Stone Fire Rating

Stone is not combustible according to underwriters' ratings, and therefore is considered a fire-resistant material. However, because of stone's thermal conductivity, heat transfer is fairly rapid. This is documented in the current [DSDM Chapter 05 – Granite](#) on page 5-12, section 3.0. The wording of this section is duplicated in the other stone chapters and expanded upon in [DSDM Chapter 07 – Marble & Onyx](#) on page 7-17.

Compliance with fire rating requirements is normally done by building a fire-rated wall behind the stone cladding, generally with gypsum board. The applicable standards are ASTM E119 "Standard Test Methods for Fire Test for Building Construction" and "Fire Resistance Classifications of Building Construction," BMS92, National Bureau of Standards. See, for example, the detail of a fire-rated wall section, 15-D-12 in [DSDM Chapter 15 – Vertical Surfaces](#).

