Your risk of injury in a home fire changes with age. If you have young children or older adults living in your home, they may need your help to stay safe. Follow these tips to protect your home and your loved ones.

### Smoke Alarms

Smoke alarms give you early warning of a fire. Every home needs working smoke alarms. Make sure your home is protected.

- Install smoke alarms on every level.
- Install smoke alarms inside and outside of all sleeping areas.
- Everyone must be able to hear the smoke alarm. Special alarms that shake or vibrate are available for those who can’t.
- Push the button on the smoke alarm every month to make sure it is working.
- Replace smoke alarms that are more than 10 years old.

### Older Adults

Our risk of being injured in a fire increases with age. Make your home safe for older adults.

- Know two ways out of each room. Keep these exits clear.
- Make sure everyone is able to get outside if the smoke alarm sounds.
- Older adults may need your help escaping. Plan for this.
- Keep wheelchair, eyeglasses, hearing aids, and a telephone next to the bed.
- Practice your escape plan with everyone.

### Young Children

Children under four years old are at higher risk of home fire injury and death than older children. Here’s how to make your home safer for them:

- Keep children at least three feet away from anything that gets hot, including heaters, the stove, and candles.
- Lock cigarette lighters and matches up high, out of a child’s sight and reach.
- Plan and practice how to escape a fire.

Learn more about fire prevention:
[www.usfa.fema.gov](http://www.usfa.fema.gov)