Fire is fast!

In less than 30 seconds a small flame can turn into a major fire.

Here are some important ways to keep your home safe from fire.

Smoke alarms

Working smoke alarms give you early warning if there is a fire.

- Put smoke alarms on every level of your home.
- Place smoke alarms inside and outside of all the sleeping areas.
- Make sure all of your smoke alarms work. Test them each month.
- Replace smoke alarms that are 10 years old or older.

In the kitchen

Cooking is the number one cause of home fires.

- Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, broiling or boiling food.
- If you leave the kitchen, turn the burner off.
- Keep things that can burn away from your cooking area.
- Turn pot handles toward the back of the stove so they won’t get bumped.

Home heating

Heating is the second leading cause of home fires.

- Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from fireplaces, wood stoves, space heaters and radiators.
- When you leave a room or go to bed, turn heaters off or unplug them.
- Plug space heaters directly into the outlet and never use an extension cord or power strip.
- Make sure your heater has an automatic shut-off switch that turns it off if it tips over.
- Have your furnace, chimney and chimney connector inspected by a professional each winter. Make repairs before cool weather sets in.

Smokers

If you smoke in your home, you’re at higher risk to have a fire.

- Always smoke outside.
- Use deep, sturdy ashtrays.
- Put cigarettes all the way out. Do this every time.
- Put water on cigarette butts before throwing them in the trash.
- Smoke only when alert. Never smoke in bed or if drowsy.

Unfold to learn about home fire escape planning and use the grid to create your own home fire escape plan.
Escape plan
Make a plan. Talk to your family about what to do if there is a fire.

Practice 2 Exits
Escape Plan
1
2
3

( Know two ways out of every room.
( Have a meeting place outside your home.
( Know how to call 911 from outside to report a fire.
( Practice your escape plan with everyone who lives in your home at least twice a year.

How to make a home fire escape plan:
1. Draw a map or floor plan of your home. Show all windows and doors.
2. Mark two ways out of each room.
3. Choose a meeting place outside in front of your home. Draw a picture of your outside meeting place on your escape plan.
4. Write the emergency telephone number for the fire department on your escape plan.
5. Practice your plan at least two times a year.

Example

Outside meeting place

Fire department number: