

Home Safety Checklist

Prevent Fires

1

Yes No

If there are smokers in your home, do they smoke outside?

 Ask smokers to smoke outside. Never smoke in bed or when drowsy.

Yes No N/A

Do smokers use deep, sturdy ashtrays?

 Use deep, sturdy ashtrays. Wet cigarette butts and ashes before throwing them out or bury them in sand.

Yes No N/A

Are space heaters at least 3 feet (1 meter) from things that can burn?

 Keep space heaters at least 3 feet (1 meter) away from anything that can burn—including you. Follow this rule for woodstoves and fireplaces, too. Shut off and unplug heaters when you leave the room or your home or go to bed. Always plug space heaters into wall outlets and never into extension cords or power strips.

Yes No

Do you inspect electrical cords in your home for damage?

 Check electrical cords often. If cords are cracked or damaged or you have loose electrical or extension cords, stop using the cords immediately and replace them. Do not try to repair them.

Yes No

Are electrical cords kept from running across doorways or under rugs?

 If not, unplug them at once. Avoid putting cords where they can be damaged or pinched by furniture, under rugs and carpets, or across doorways.

Yes No

Do you know how to put out a pan fire on the stovetop?

 If a pan of food catches fire, slide a lid over it and turn off the burner. When in doubt, get outside and call the fire department.

Yes No

Do you stay in the kitchen when you cook?

 Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove. Don't use the stove if you are drowsy from alcohol or medication and do not cook while taking new medication until you know how it will affect you.

Yes No

Do you allow food cooked in a microwave oven to cool before eating?

 Remember that while microwave ovens stay cool, the food inside can become very hot. Open microwaved food slowly, away from the face. Allow food to cool before eating.

Yes No

Do you wear tight-fitting clothing or short sleeves when you cook?

 Wear tight-fitting, rolled-up, or short sleeves when cooking. Use oven mitts to handle hot pans.



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 Yes No**Do you know what to do if your clothes catch fire?**

■ Stop (don't run), drop gently to the ground, and cover your face with your hands. Roll over and over or back and forth to put out the fire. If you cannot drop and roll, keep a blanket or towel nearby to smother flames. If you use a wheelchair, scooter, or other device and are able to get to the floor, lock the device first before getting out and then roll until the flames are out. If you are a bystander, consider grabbing a rug, blanket, or fire blanket to help extinguish the flames. Use cool water for 3-5 minutes to cool the burn. Get medical help right away.

 Yes No**Do you know what to do if you burn yourself?**

■ Treat a burn right away by putting it in cool water. Cool the burn for 3 to 5 minutes. Get medical help if needed. Do not apply creams, ointments, sprays, or other home remedies.

 Yes No**Do you have at least one smoke alarm on every level of your home, outside each sleeping area, and inside each bedroom?**

■ Have smoke alarms installed outside each sleeping area, on every level of your home, and inside each bedroom. Make sure alarms are interconnected so that when one sounds they all sound. If you are deaf or hard of hearing, special alarms are available.

 Yes No**Do you test your smoke alarms monthly?**

■ Have someone test your smoke alarms once a month by pushing the test button. Batteries should be changed at least once a year or whenever the alarm "chirps" to tell you that the battery power is low. Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old

 Yes No**If there was a fire in your home, would you know how to get outside**

■ In a fire, get outside as quickly as you can and stay outside. Once you have escaped a fire, call the fire department from a neighbor's phone or a cell phone.

 Yes No**Do you know two ways out of every room?**

■ If possible, know two ways out of every room in your home and two ways out of the home. Make sure windows and doors open easily. Windows with security bars, grills, and window guards should have emergency release devices. Make sure furniture and other heavy objects are not blocking your exits. If you must escape through smoke, stay low and go under the smoke to your way out.

 Yes No**Have you included anyone with a disability in your home in your escape planning and determined what assistance they would need to get out of the home in case of an emergency?**

■ Include everyone in your home in the planning process. Develop your escape plan around their abilities. Practice the plan at least twice a year both during the day and at night.

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Yes No N/A

Have you provided smoke alarms and alert devices called accessories (strobe lights or bed/pillow shakers) for people in your home who are deaf or hard of hearing?

 Smoke alarms and alert devices, called accessories, are available for people who are deaf or hard of hearing. Strobe lights throughout the home are activated by smoke alarms and alert people who are deaf to fire conditions. When people who are deaf are asleep, a high-intensity strobe light along with a pillow/bed shaker can wake them up and alert them to fire conditions so they can escape. This equipment is activated by the sound of a standard smoke alarm. Smoke alarm alert devices also are available for people who are hard of hearing. These accessories, which are activated by the sound of the smoke alarm, produce a loud, mixed low-pitched sound. This equipment is activated by the sound of the smoke alarm. People who are hard of hearing also may find that a pillow/bed shaker is helpful in waking them up.

Yes No

Do you know the emergency number to call in case of fire?

 Memorize your local emergency number. It may be 9-1-1 or the fire department's phone number. Once you escape, you will need to call from a neighbor's phone or a cell phone

Yes No

Do you have a telephone in your bedroom?

 Have a telephone in your bedroom or close to where you sleep and post the local emergency number nearby in case you are trapped by smoke or fire.

Yes No

Do you have a medical alert button?

 Consider having this device for access to help in an emergency.

Yes No

Do you have carbon monoxide alarms in your home?

 Install a carbon monoxide alarm outside each sleeping area and on every level of your home. Test the alarms monthly. If you cannot reach the alarm safely, ask for help.