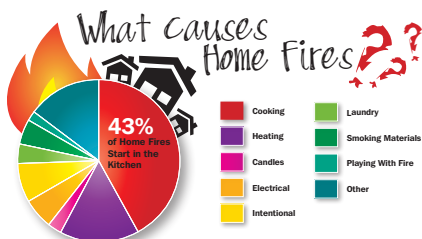


Home Fire Prevention



Each year there are more than **360,000** home fires; over **2500** deaths; over **13,000** injuries; over **7 billion** dollars worth of property destroyed. Most of these tragedies were preventable. Use the following fire prevention tips to keep safe!



Smoke Alarms SAVE LIVES!



Three out of five fire deaths were in homes without working smoke alarms. Your best defense against fire is a smoke alarm. You should have at least one alarm on every level of your home.

Kitchen Fires



The kitchen is the leading cause of home fires and injuries.

- Never leave cooking food unattended.
- Keep cooking surfaces clean.
- Hang curtains, potholders, and dishtowels at least three feet from the stove.
- Cook with the lowest effective heat.
- Supervise children in the kitchen at all times.
- Avoid cooking in loose fitting clothes or with sleeves that dangle.

Electrical Fires

- Avoid extension cords. Never run cords under rugs or across walkways.
- Never overload electrical outlets.
- Check cords and plugs for wear.
- Make sure appliances have the approval of a testing laboratory, such as UL.
- Lights flicker? Switches hot to the touch? Contact a licensed electrician right away.



Smoking

- Never smoke in bed or when sleepy.
- Smoke outside. Most smoking related fires start inside.
- If smoking inside, check for cigarette butts in chairs and sofas.
- Make sure that smoking materials are extinguished and ashtrays are cleaned when cool.



Heating

- Have chimneys cleaned and inspected each year.
- Use a fire screen on fireplaces to contain sparks.
- Ensure fires are completely out before leaving.
- Make sure all space heaters are clean and in good working condition.
- Use space heaters that have thermostat controls and will turn off if tipped over.
- Keep combustible materials at least 3 feet from all heat sources.
- Never hang holiday decorations from heat sources.



Fire Safety Tips

- ✦ Keep matches and lighters away from children – they are tools, not toys.
- ✦ Avoid candles. If you do use them, remember: When you go out – blow it out!
- ✦ Keep flammable liquids away from heat sources.
- ✦ Keep proper fire extinguishers on hand and know how to use them.
- ✦ Have a fire escape plan and practice fire drills at least twice a year.



Avoid Disaster!
PREVENT HOME FIRES!

