

Home Fire Prevention Checklist

Do a Self Inspection of your Home

Safe and Warm

- ✓ Are space heaters at least 3 feet away from walls, sofas, and anything else that can burn?
- ✓ Has your chimney been inspected or cleaned in the past 12 months?
- ✓ Does your fireplace have a sturdy screen to catch sparks?
- ✓ Has your heating system been professionally inspected or serviced in the past 12 months?

House Wiring

- ✓ Do the tripping points of your fuses or breakers match the capacity of the circuits they protect?
- ✓ Are bathroom and kitchen wall outlets protected by ground-fault circuit-interrupters (GFCIs)?
- ✓ Do you use arc-fault circuit-interrupters (AFCIs), which detect abnormal arcing in a circuit?

Hazardous Materials

- ✓ Are paints, gasoline, and other flammable liquids stored away from flames and sparks?
- ✓ Is gasoline stored outside the home in a separate shed or garage?
- ✓ Is your storage area clean – no oily rags, used paint, or varnish rags?

Kitchen Safety

- ✓ Does an adult stay in the kitchen when something's cooking on the stove?
- ✓ Is your stovetop clean – no grease, no spills, no clutter?
- ✓ When you cook, do you turn pot handles in toward the back of the stove?

Smoking Materials

- ✓ Do you encourage smokers to smoke outside?
- ✓ Are matches and lighters locked up high, out of sight and reach of children?
- ✓ Do you have a large, deep sturdy astray?

Around the Home

- ✓ Do you have smoke alarms installed on every level of your home and in each sleeping area?
- ✓ Do your smoke alarms work? Do you test them once a month and replace batteries at least once a year?
- ✓ Does everyone in your home know the sound of your smoke alarms?
- ✓ Do you have alarms with flashing lights for people who are deaf or hard of hearing?

- ✓ Are any smoke alarms in your home more than 10 years old? (If so, replace them).
- ✓ Does your family have a home fire escape plan, and do you practice it every six months?
- ✓ Consider installing an automatic fire sprinkler system in your home. Sprinklers can contain or put out a fire in less time than it takes the fire department to arrive.

Candles

- ✓ Are candles blown out when grown-ups leave the room or go to sleep?
- ✓ Do you have sturdy non-tip and non-combustible candle holders?
- ✓ Are lit candles kept a safe distance from anything that can burn?

For more safety tips, visit www.nfpa.org