

Home Fire Safety Checklist[©]

Fire and Burn Safety

- Y N Are candles kept 12 inches away from anything that can burn, and are they always blown out before you leave the room?
- Y N Are portable space heaters always turned off when adults leave the room or go to sleep?
- Y N Are portable space heaters at least three feet (one meter) away from anything that can burn, including people, furniture, and pets?
- Y N Do you clean the lint from the filter and from around the clothes dryer before each load?
- Y N Does your fireplace have a sturdy screen to catch sparks, and are ashes removed only when cool, and stored in a metal container away from the house?
- Y N Has your furnace and chimney been inspected and cleaned during the past year?
- Y N Do you know that showers and baths, hot coffee and even microwaved soup can cause serious scald burns?
- Y N Is your water heater thermostat adjusted to keep hot water less than 120 F?

Electrical Safety

- Y N Are electrical cords and extension cords in good condition and used safely (not under carpets or across doorways)?
- Y N Are kitchen appliances (coffee-makers, toaster ovens, microwaves) plugged directly into separate outlets, not into extension cords?
- Y N Do you have a qualified electrician if you need electrical work done, or if you suspect electrical problems?

Cooking Safety

- Y N Does a grown-up always stay in the kitchen when food is being cooked on the stovetop or in the microwave?
- Y N Are curtains, towels, wood utensils and other items that can burn kept well away from the stovetop?
- Y N Is there a “kid-free” zone of three feet (one meter) around the stove when grown-ups are cooking?
- Y N When you are using the oven, do you use a timer?
- Y N Do you keep a lid nearby to smother small grease fires?
- Y N If you had an oven fire, would you turn off the oven and keep the door closed?
- Y N If you have a cooking fire, would you immediately get out and call 911 from your meeting place?

Smoke Alarms / Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detectors / Home Fire Escape

- Y N Does your home have smoke alarms on every level, including the basement, and outside each sleeping area, and can everyone hear them?
- Y N Do you check your smoke alarms and CO alarms at least twice a year to make sure that they are working?
- Y N Are all exits from your home clear of furniture, toys and clutter?
- Y N Does your family practice an escape plan, including two exits from each room, usually a door and a window?
- Y N Does your family have a meeting place where everyone knows to go?
- Y N Do you know that your smoke alarms need to be replaced every ten years?