



# FIRE SAFETY AND PREVENTION

## SMOKE ALARMS:

- Install a smoke alarm on every level of your home, including your basement. Be sure to place them near sleeping areas, and inside each bedroom.
- Test your smoke alarms once a month, and make sure your child can recognize the sound.
- Check the expiration dates on all alarms. Replace those that are more than 10 years old.

## FIRE ESCAPE PLANNING:

- Prepare a fire escape plan, and make sure your family knows what to do and where to meet in case of an emergency.
- Place escape ladders near each window above the first floor.
- Teach your child to get low and crawl on the ground, where the air is less smoky.
- Show your child how to use the back of his hand to check doorknobs and doors for heat before opening. Teach them to use a different way out if the door is hot to the touch.
- Teach children to let firefighters and adults know where they are by answering their calls. Even if they are scared, they should never hide.
- Teach children how to stop, drop and roll.

## KITCHEN:

- Place all flammable items, like dishtowels, wooden spoons, cookbooks and packaging materials, away from the stove.
- Have a working fire extinguisher in the kitchen, and know how to use it.
- If you can, keep children out of the kitchen while you're cooking. If that's not possible, create a clear zone of 3 feet around the stove.

## FIREPLACES AND SPACE HEATERS:

- Place a sturdy screen in front of all fireplaces; install barriers around space heaters.
- If you have a fireplace, use seasoned hardwood, such as oak, ash or maple, and be sure to have your fireplace inspected and cleaned once a year.

## DOWNLOAD THE MAKE SAFE HAPPEN APP

Developed in partnership with the safety experts at Nationwide Children's Hospital, the app helps you make your home safer. Get room-by-room safety checklists, link to recommended products, and set reminders.



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**CANDLES AND OTHER FLAMMABLE MATERIALS:**

- Place flashlights in easy-to-locate areas of the home.
- Remove all novelty lighters, or any lighters that look like toys.
- Store matches, lighters and other flammable materials in a safe place, or high up out of children's reach and sight. Teach them to never play with these things.
- Store gasoline only in approved containers, and keep them in a locked location, like a garage or shed.

**ELECTRICAL:**

- Take a quick look around the house to make sure that there are not too many appliance cords in one outlet.
- Use ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCI) in all outlets, especially in areas where water is used.
- Use a surge protector on outlets. Make sure to use only one surge protector per wall outlet.
- Cover all unused outlets with outlet covers.

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