

Fire Hazards

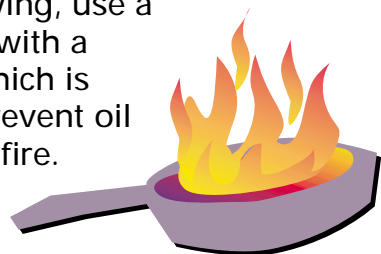
in the Home



FACT:
Seven out of ten fires occur in the home.

Kitchen

- Remove pans from elements when not in use – you might accidentally turn on the wrong burner.
- Unplug kettles, frying pans and other appliances when not in use.
- Don't hang clothing above the stove to dry. It might fall on a burner and catch fire.
- When deep-frying, use a deep fat fryer with a thermostat, which is designed to prevent oil from catching fire. Don't use a regular stovetop pot or pan.
- Use safety matches, and keep matches and lighters out of the reach of children.
- Keep a working fire extinguisher nearby in case of grease fires.



Living room

- Use a fireplace screen to contain coals or flying sparks that can easily

ignite rugs or furniture.

- Don't use extension cords in place of permanent wiring. Make sure you have enough electrical outlets to power your appliances.
- Use large, deep ashtrays. Check furniture for fallen cigarettes or embers before you go to bed, and make sure cigarette butts are out by placing them in a metal container.

Bedroom

Never smoke in bed. Many smokers die when they fall asleep and drop lit cigarettes in bedding.

Basement and attic

- Remove combustibles from your basement and attic. They make it easier for a blaze to start, and once started, they add fuel to a fire.
- Have a maintenance person clean your furnace at least once a year and check all furnace safety controls. Chimney and flue connections should also be checked for leaks.
- Remove flammable liquids from the house.
- Remove oversized fuses. A 15-ampere fuse is normally used in homes. If in doubt, consult a qualified electrician. Have your

wiring checked periodically.

Plan for fire

- An hour of planning may save years of life. Practise fire drills with your family!
- Make sure your home has at least one smoke alarm on every floor. They will give you and your family time to escape in case of fire.
- Make sure everyone knows two ways out of each bedroom.
- A window can be an exit. Make sure storm windows and screens can be easily removed from the inside, if you need to escape a fire. Folding escape ladders may be needed in higher buildings. In an emergency, adults can lower children carefully out of second floor windows. Use caution when escaping down a stairway. It might become a chimney for smoke, hot gas and fire.
- Don't risk serious injury by jumping in panic from a high window. Stay in the room with the door closed and the window slightly open. Hang a sheet out the window to show rescuers your location. Sit on the floor to avoid breathing in smoke.
- A hot door is a warning. Feel the door before opening it and look to

see if smoke is leaking in around it. Keep bedroom, kitchen and basement doors closed at night to act as a barrier, in case of fire.

- Never go back into a burning building for any reason!

Wood/pellet stoves and other solid fuel-burning appliances and accessories

Make sure that you buy home heating appliances that have been certified by a recognized testing and certification agency, and meet or exceed the standard CAN/CSA B365. Contact your local fire department for additional information on the safe installation and use of solid fuel burning appliances and accessories, and for municipal code requirements.

Remember! In case of fire — no one should return to a burning building for pets, toys or clothes.

Follow these guidelines to make your home safe for you and your family!

Do it

