



## Team Up for Fire Safety™ Checklist

### Important questions that could save your life

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By taking the time to do a fire safety inspection, and correcting any problems you discover, you'll reduce your family's risk of being harmed in a home fire. Take about 20 minutes to inspect your home. As you go from room to room, check off answers to the questions listed below. Give yourself a point for each question that receives a 'yes' answer. When you're done, add up the points to find out your score. Then, take steps today to improve those areas that need it. Kids: ask a grown-up to help!

#### Hunting for Home Hazards

- Yes  No Does a grown-up always stay in the kitchen when food is cooking on the stove?
- Yes  No Are cooking areas free of materials that could catch fire?
- Yes  No Are pot handles turned towards the back of the stove?
- Yes  No Is there a "kid-free" zone of three feet (one metre) around the stove when grown-ups are cooking?
- Yes  No Are portable space heaters always turned off and when grown-ups leave the room or go to sleep?
- Yes  No Has your family's heating equipment - chimneys, fireplaces, woodstoves, or furnaces been inspected by a professional this year?
- Yes  No Are candles always blown out when grown-ups leave the room or go to bed?
- Yes  No Are candles in candleholders that can't tip over easily and are big enough to catch dripping wax safely?
- Yes  No Are matches and lighters kept in a locked cabinet, out of children's sight and reach?
- Yes  No Are electrical cords in good condition, without cracks or frayed areas?
- Yes  No Are flammable liquids like gasoline, kerosene, or propane stored in safe containers, outside the home in a properly ventilated shed or garage?
- Yes  No If there are smokers in your home, do they douse all butts and ashes with water before throwing them away?

#### Sound the Alarm: Installing and Testing Smoke Alarms

- Yes  No Does your home have a working smoke alarm on every floor, and inside or near every sleeping area?
- Yes  No Are the batteries working in every smoke alarm? (Have a grown-up press the 'test' button to find out.)

- Yes  No Do you have any smoke alarms that are more than 10 years old? If so, or if you can't remember, have a grown-up replace them.
- Yes  No Does everyone in your home know the sound of the smoke alarm and know exactly what to do if it goes off?

### Do the Drill: Practicing Home Fire Escape Plans

- Yes  No Does your family have a home fire escape plan that includes two exits (usually a door and a window) out of each room?
- Yes  No Are exits in your home kept free of toys, furniture, and clutter?
- Yes  No If there are infants or other family members with limited mobility, has someone been assigned to assist them in the event of a fire?
- Yes  No Does your family practice the escape plan twice a year? (Why not practice it tonight!)
- Yes  No Has your family picked a safe place to meet outside after you exit the home?
- Yes  No Does everyone in your family know the fire department's emergency number to call once you're safely outside?
- Yes  No Is your home's street number clearly visible from the street?

### Is your home team fire-safe?

If you answered 'yes' to all of the checklist questions above, congratulations! You and your family are doing a great job of teaming up for fire safety.

If you answered 'yes' to 20 or more questions, you're on your way. Make sure to correct any problems, and you'll be 'home safe' before you know it.

If you answered 'yes' to 15 or more questions, you've got some work to do! Work together to correct the problems then take the test again.

If you answered 'yes' to fewer than 15 questions, it's definitely time to make some changes. Make sure your family takes the steps needed to turn every 'no' into a 'yes.' Remember: passing this test could save your life in the event of a home fire.

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