



Our Home is Fire Safe





This home fire safety plan belongs to:

Name

Address

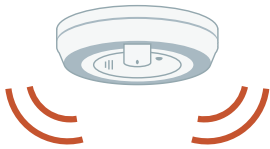
Phone

Keeping your home safe from fires starts with education.

Habits that are fire safe can be learned by anyone and at any age, and may save your life. The best way to fight fire is through prevention, and mitigating hazards is a great first step to prevent fires in your home. In case a fire does start, working smoke alarms can provide early warning and following a home escape plan is essential. It is also important to know how to behave around the many everyday hot things we have in our homes and know what to do when burns occur.

This package contains valuable fire safety information that can be followed in any home. Review each section carefully with the people you live with to learn how to keep your home fire safe.

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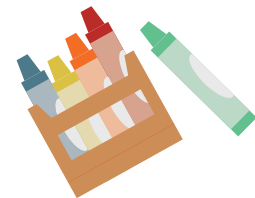
Kitchen Fire Safety

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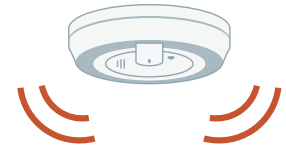
Home Fire Safety Checklist

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Fire Safe Colouring Sheet

Smoke Alarms



Every home should have working smoke alarms.

Benefits

- Smoke alarms provide an early warning of smoke and fire.
- You may not always smell smoke when you are sleeping. Smoke and toxic gases can numb your sense of smell and put you deeper into sleep. Heat, smoke and toxic gases spread before flames do.
- Smoke alarms can provide more time to escape safely and reduce the risk of death in a home fire by 50%.

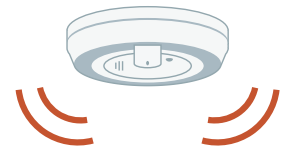
Testing, Maintenance and Replacement

- Test smoke alarms once a month using the test button.
- For battery-operated smoke alarms, replace batteries at least once a year. Batteries should also be replaced when the smoke alarm makes a chirping sound.
- Replace your smoke alarm once a decade (every 10 years). Write the 10-year date when you will need a new one on the back.

Carbon Monoxide Alarms

- Carbon monoxide (CO) is an invisible gas with no taste or smell that can make people and pets really sick or lead to death.
- Smoke alarms commonly beep three times in a row and repeat, while CO alarms will beep four times in a row and repeat or sound continuously.
- CO alarms should also be installed and tested once a month if your home has:
 - An attached garage
 - A fuel-fired appliance, such as a fireplace, stove, furnace or hot water tank that is operated on natural gas, propane, fuel, oil, diesel or wood

Location of Smoke Alarms

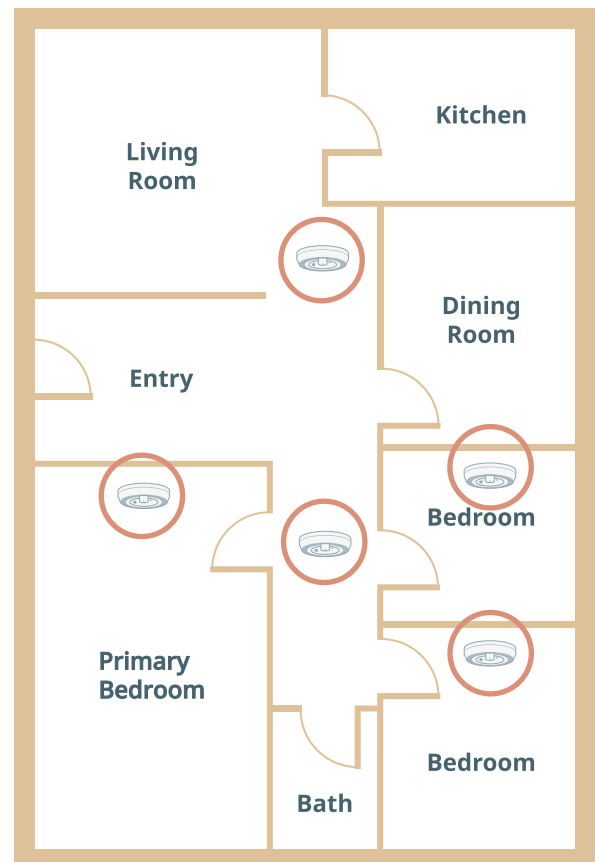


- Install smoke alarms on the ceiling.
- Read the manufacturer's instructions carefully and follow them exactly.
- Do not install smoke alarms near windows, doors or air registers where drafts could prevent smoke from reaching them.
- Install smoke alarms away from the kitchen and at least 3 metres (10 feet) from cooking appliances, as normal cooking vapours can trigger nuisance or false alarms.
- Install smoke alarms outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement.
- For maximum protection, install a smoke alarm in every bedroom.

Multi-Level Home



Single-Level Home

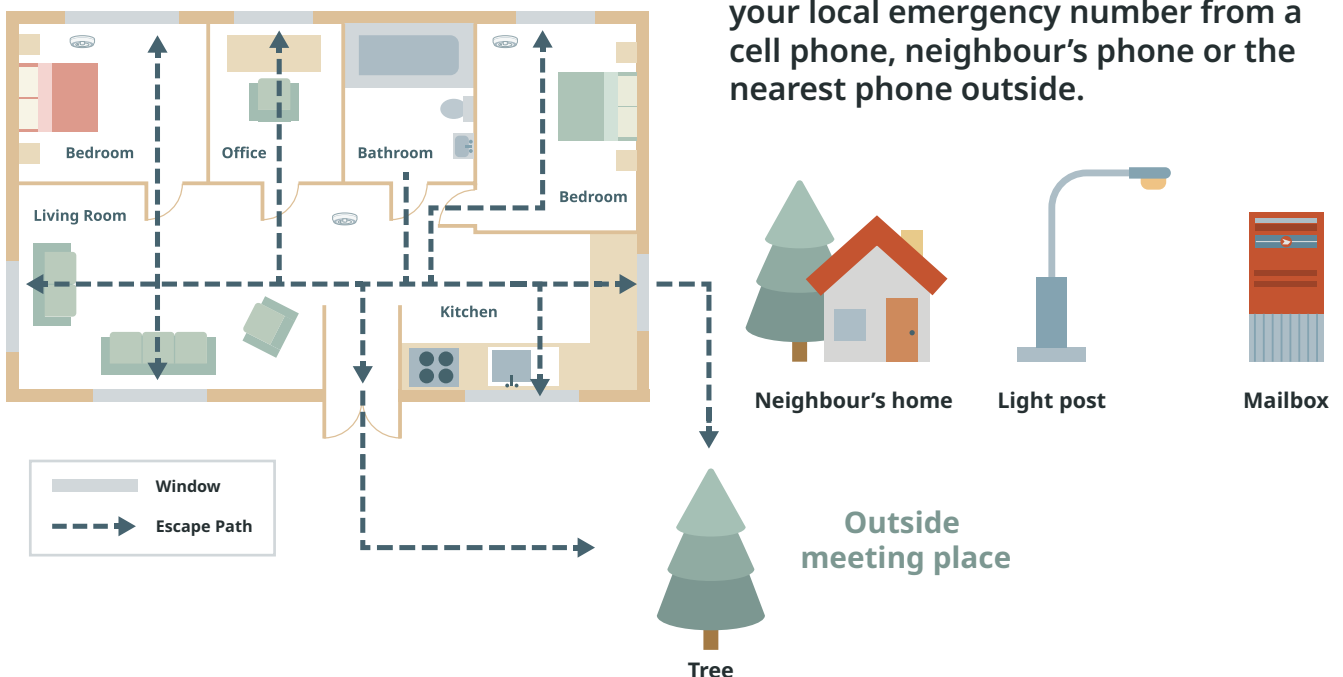


Creating Your Home Fire Escape Plan



To reduce your risk from fire, sit down with the people you live with and develop a home fire escape plan. Make sure to tell other family members, friends and visitors about your plan when they are staying in your home. Use the grid provided on page 5 and follow the steps below.

1. Draw a floor plan of your home, marking all windows and doors.
2. Plan two ways out of every room. The primary escape path would likely be a door and the secondary escape path would be a window. Make sure all windows open easily.
3. If you live in a multi-level building, familiarize yourself with its fire safety plan. Include the locations of building stairs and emergency exits in your escape plan. In the event of a fire, always use the stairs, never the elevator.
4. Choose a meeting place outside your home and include it on your plan. This is where you and the people you live with will meet if your home is on fire. Suggestions include a tree, neighbour's home, mailbox or light post.
5. Make sure everyone you live with knows that when they hear a smoke alarm beep (or see smoke alarm lights or feel a shaker), they should go to the outside meeting place. Install working smoke alarms on every level of your home and in every sleeping area.
6. Remember, once outside, stay outside! Once out of your home, call 9-1-1 or your local emergency number from a cell phone, neighbour's phone or the nearest phone outside.



Additional Considerations



- **Ensure your home fire escape plan considers members of your home who may need extra help waking up or getting outside**, such as infants and younger children, grandparents, Elders, people with mobility difficulties or mobility aids (e.g., walkers, wheelchairs, canes), people who are deaf or hard of hearing, people who are blind or have sight loss and any pets.
- **Be sure windows and doors are easy to unlock and open** for all members of the home.
- **Ensure you have a safe way to reach the ground** if you must escape from an upper story window of a multi-level home, such as using an escape ladder.
- **Put up a pet rescue alert sticker** in your window or on your door. These can be purchased from the BC SPCA.
- **For homes with children, keep doors closed while they are sleeping**, use baby monitors and ensure parents or caregivers have a method of reaching the child's room from the outside.
- **For older adults, people with mobility difficulties and people with disabilities**, keep items like phones, flashlights, whistles, eyeglasses, special medications, slippers, robes, walkers or wheelchairs near their bedside. Medical alert systems that contact emergency services should be worn if necessary.
- **There are circumstances where home escape is not possible**, such as when all exits are blocked or an individual has mobility challenges preventing escape. It may be necessary to shelter in place away from the fire. Close doors and use towels or blankets to prevent smoke from entering the room. Immediately call your emergency services number and make it clear there is a fire, you are unable to escape and where you are within the home. Sheltering in place should be a last resort; plan to know two ways out of every room.

If you live in an apartment, your building may have an "area of refuge," which is a safe space designed to shelter during an emergency. Include this area in your home escape plan.

Our Home Fire Escape Plan



Our address is	
Our local emergency number is	
Our outside meeting place is	
Our emergency contact neighbour is (name/phone/address)	
We have a pet rescue alert sticker on our front door or window	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Draw your home fire escape plan here!

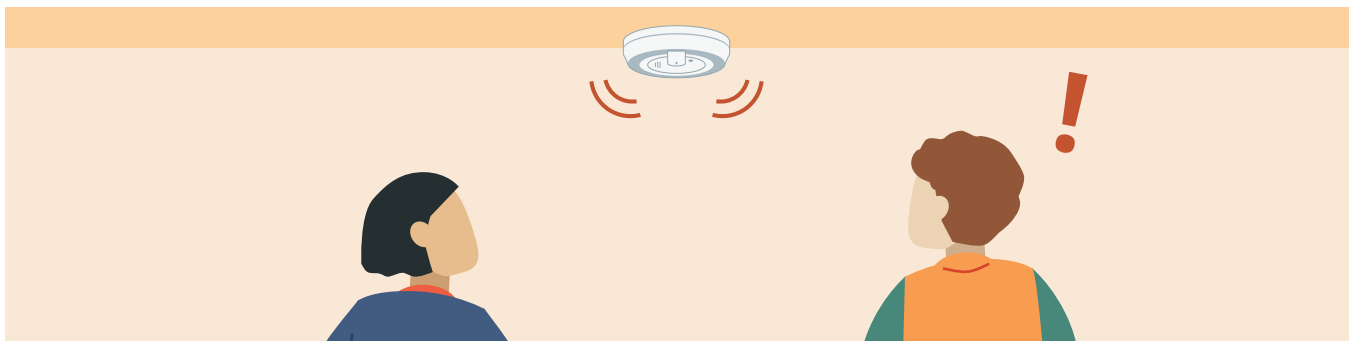
A large grid of small black dots for drawing the home fire escape plan. The grid consists of 20 rows and 20 columns of dots.

Home Fire Drill



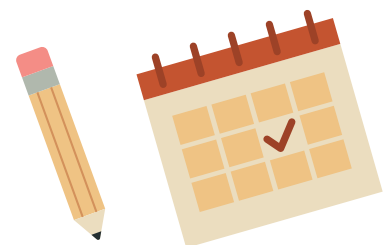
To ensure the actions in your home fire escape plan become second nature, practice a fire drill at least twice a year.

1. Bring everyone in your home together. Tell them that you are going to practice a fire drill.
2. Explain that when the smoke alarm goes off, everyone should quickly and carefully leave and go outside to your meeting place.
3. Direct everyone to go to a different room and wait for the alarm. Wait a couple of minutes then press the test button on the smoke alarm and observe everyone's actions.
4. When everyone is outside at the meeting place, ask each person to describe what they did when the smoke alarm sounded.
5. Practice again if anyone was unsure or felt scared!



We will practice our fire drill twice a year on these dates:

1. _____
2. _____



First Aid for Burns



Degree	Appearance of skin	Level of Pain	Treatment
First (thermal burns)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Redness• Mild swelling• Sunburn	Some pain	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Put in cool running water for at least 10 to 15 minutes or use a cool compress, such as a clean wet cloth, that won't stick to the burned area2. Cover with a clean sheet
Second (partial-thickness burns)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Moist blisters• Redness	Very painful	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Put in cool running water for at least 10 to 15 minutes or use a cool compress, such as a clean wet cloth, that won't stick to the burned area2. Cover with a clean sheet3. Treat for shock4. Do not pop blisters on skin, as that can increase the chance of infection5. Get medical help if necessary
Third (full-thickness burns)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dry skin• White or charred skin	Little pain at first because nerve endings have been burned away, then very painful later	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Do not remove clothing that is stuck to the burn, as it could cause further skin damage2. Do not pop blisters on skin, as that can increase the chance of infection3. Cover with a clean sheet4. Treat for shock5. Get medical help

Go to the doctor, hospital or call emergency services if the burn:

- Is more than half the size of the person's hand
- Is on the face, hands, feet or groin area
- Breaks or blisters the skin
- Gives the individual breathing difficulty
- Causes the person to experience significant pain or they become unresponsive
- Was caused by electricity, chemicals or an explosion



Cooling the skin helps to:

- ✓ Lower the temperature of the skin and stop the burning process
- ✓ Numb the pain
- ✓ Reduce or stop swelling

NEVER use these on burns:

- ✗ Oil, butter or margarine
- ✗ Cream or toothpaste
- ✗ Adhesive bandages
- ✗ Ice

Kitchen Fire Safety



Preventing

Extinguishing

Grease Fires

- Keep cooking surfaces free of spills and grease that may catch fire.
- Do not let oil/grease overheat.
- Never leave the cooking area when boiling, frying, broiling or grilling food. Oil and fat can ignite.

- Turn the heat source off.
- Smother the fire by sliding a lid or cookie sheet over the pot/pan.
- Never pour water on a grease fire as it will cause the flames to spread.

Oven Fires

- Clean your oven regularly to keep it free of grease and food build-up.
- Stay in your home if baking, roasting or simmering and check the food regularly.

- Keep the oven door closed and turn the heat source off.

Microwave Fires

- Clean your microwave regularly to keep it free of grease and food build-up.

- Keep the microwave door closed, turn the microwave off and unplug the unit.

Appliance Fires

- Clean appliance surfaces to keep them free of spills and grease that may catch fire.
- Don't overload electrical outlets.
- Examine electrical cords and discard any that are damaged.
- Turn off and unplug electrical appliances when not in use.
- Keep combustible materials away from heat sources.

- Unplug the appliance.
- Use an appropriate fire extinguisher.

Clothing Fires

- Avoid loose sleeves that may contact elements and catch fire.
- Turn pot handles in. Stay alert while cooking.
- Do not store items on or above the stove to prevent your clothing from contacting hot burners.

- Stop, drop and roll. Cover your face with your hands.

Electrical Fires

- Don't overload electrical outlets.
- Have an electrician repair any damaged or faulty wiring and plugs.
- Discard any damaged electrical cords.

- Turn the power off.
- Use an appropriate fire extinguisher.

Our Home Fire Safety Checklist



Preventing fires before they start is everyone's responsibility. Go through this checklist with the people you live with to make sure your home is fire safe. Items with the kid-friendly 😊 icon mean that children can help check them off the list. Put the checklist up somewhere visible, like a fridge or near a calendar as a reminder.

Information on how to keep the outside of your home fire safe can be found through FireSmart BC. Visit firesmartbc.ca to learn more.

	Yes! Fire Safe	Needs Action
Smoke Alarms		
😊 Does your home have a smoke alarm on every level and inside every sleeping area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
😊 Does everyone in your home know the sound/sight smoke alarms make?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
😊 Does everyone in your home know what to do if the smoke alarms sound?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are the batteries working in all of your smoke alarms?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are your smoke alarms interconnected (when one sounds, they all sound)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you test each smoke alarm once a month?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you change the smoke alarm batteries twice a year (if needed)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Home Escape Plan		
😊 Does everyone in your home know two ways out of each room?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
😊 Do you have a meeting place outside?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
😊 Does everyone in your home practice a home fire escape plan twice a year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
😊 If your clothes catch fire, do you know how to stop, drop and roll ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
😊 Are all exits in your home clear of toys and clutter?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Can you find the nearest exit in the dark?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire Extinguisher		
😊 Does your home or kitchen have at least one portable fire extinguisher?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is one person in your home properly trained to use a portable fire extinguisher to put out small, contained fires?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Heating		
😊 Is there at least 1 metre (3 feet) of space between all the heating equipment in your home and things that can burn?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If you have a fireplace, does it have a screen?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Emergency Response



Can you see your house or apartment building numbers from the street during the day and night?

Is your home address saved in your cell phone or near your home phone?

Is your local emergency number saved in your cell phone or near your home phone?

Do you know how to contact your local emergency number during an emergency?

Cooking

Is your stove top free of grease and clutter?

When cooking, are pot handles turned inward?

Does someone in your home know how to put out a grease fire?

Is your kitchen a pet-free-zone when you are cooking?

Electrical and Gas

Are all of your home appliances, such as microwaves, refrigerators and washers/dryers plugged directly into wall outlets and not extension cords?

Are all the electrical cords and outlets in your house in good condition?

Does your home breaker panel include labels for major appliances so you know which to shut off? Do you know where your gas shut-off valve is?

Do you clean out your clothes dryer's lint filter before every use?

Lighting and Candles

Is there space between any lights and your furniture, sheets, curtains or any other flammable things in your home?

Are any lit candles in your home at least a foot away from flammable materials?

Matches and Lighters

Are all matches and lighters stored somewhere safe, where they cannot be accessed by children?

Batteries

Do you avoid using lithium-ion batteries if they are too hot, smell, have changed in shape or colour, make noises or leak?

Do you avoid covering or leaving charging electronics, such as smartphones and laptops, on bed sheets or papers?

Do you dispose of batteries at your local recycling depot?

Flammable and Combustible Liquids

Are aerosol cans (such as beauty products) stored away from the sun/heat?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is cooking oil stored away from the stove/oven area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is hand sanitizer stored separately from matches or lighters?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is nail polish remover stored in a cabinet away from heat?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is rubbing alcohol stored in a cabinet away from heat?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are laundry products stored away from the dryer?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is gasoline stored outside the house?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is propane stored outside the house?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is paint thinner stored outside the house?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are all hazardous liquids stored away from sources of fire, heat or sparks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Smoking

If you smoke, do you smoke outside and not indoors?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you extinguish and dispose cigarettes and cigars in an appropriate container, such as an ashtray?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you remove batteries from e-cigarettes before putting them away?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If you use medical oxygen, are you aware that smoking around oxygen is extremely dangerous and may cause clothing and hair to catch fire and cause severe and painful burns?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you keep flammable materials and ashtrays away from each other?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you keep smoking materials in a place where children cannot access them?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you extinguish cigarettes, butts and ashes, for example by using water or sand, before disposing of them?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you avoid disposing of smoking materials in both indoor and outdoor plants?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Cultural Practices

When conducting cultural practices in your home (such as smudging, lighting candles, menorahs, etc.), do you remember to not leave burning materials unattended and ensure proper extinguishing?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
During any special ceremonies, gatherings, events or cultural practices, do you check your local fire department's requirements for safe setup/regulations for cooking devices?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Our Home is Fire Safe



provincial guide to home
fire and burn prevention

