

October is Fire Safety Month

National Fire Safety Month

During Fire Safety Month attention is focused on promoting fire safety and prevention, however we should practice fire safety all year long. Many potential fire hazards go undetected because people simply do not take steps to fireproof their home.

Many bedroom fires are caused by misuse or poor maintenance of electrical devices, careless use of candles, smoking in bed, and children playing with matches and lighters.

Most potential hazards can be addressed with a little common sense. For example, be sure to keep flammable items like bedding, clothes and curtains at least three feet away from portable heaters or lit candles, and never smoke in bed. Also, items like appliances or electric blankets should not be operated if they have frayed power cords, and electrical outlets should never be overloaded.



Fire Safety Home Check

Fire Safety Checklist:

- Install and maintain a working smoke alarm outside of every sleep area and remember to change the battery at least once a year.
- Designate two escape routes from each bedroom and practice them regularly.
- Teach everyone the "Stop, Drop, and Roll" technique in case clothing catches on fire.
- Avoid storing old mattresses in the home or garage.
- Teach kids that matches, lighters and candles are tools, not toys. If you suspect that a child is playing with fire, check under beds and in closets for telltale signs like burned matches. Matches and lighters should be stored in a secure drawer or cabinet.
- **S** = Smoke alarms, Make sure you have at least one on every floor.
- **T** = Test your smoke alarms weekly, Test your smoke alarm weekly, or ask someone to check it for you.
- **O** = Obvious dangers, Look for fire risks like overloaded sockets, candles and unattended appliances.
- **P** = Plan your escape route, Keep access routes clear and have your keys at the ready.
- Let's **STOP** fire together



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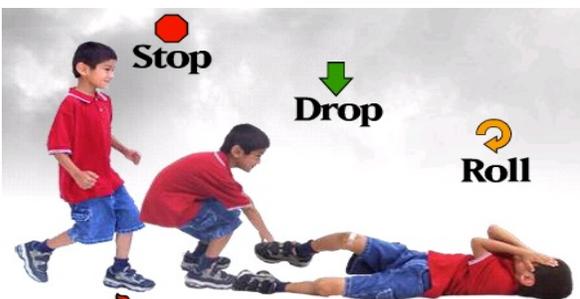
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The 7 Ways to Prepare for a Home Fire

- 1) Install the right number of smoke alarms. Test them once a month and replace the batteries at least once a year.
- 2) Teach children what smoke alarms sound like and what to do when they hear one.
- 3) Ensure that all household members know two ways to escape from every room of your home and know the family meeting spot outside of your home.
- 4) Establish a family emergency communications plan and ensure that all household members know who to contact if they cannot find one another.
- 5) Practice escaping from your home at least twice a year. Press the smoke alarm test button or yell "Fire" to alert everyone that they must get out.
- 6) Make sure everyone knows how to call 9-1-1.
- 7) Teach household members to STOP, DROP and ROLL if their clothes should catch on fire.



Fire Extinguisher Quiz

1. The three elements of a fire are:
 - a. Oxygen, charcoal, and lighter fluid.
 - b. Oxygen, heat, and fuel.**
 - c. Carbon dioxide, heat, and fuel.
 - d. Oxygen, fuel, and water.
2. The significance of the "fire triangle" lies in the fact that:
 - a. If you add hydrogen, you can generate nuclear power.
 - b. It links both theology and physics.
 - c. If you take away one of the elements, you can put out a fire.**
 - d. None of the above.
3. Flammable liquids, gases and greases are designated as fires of _____.
 - a. Class A.
 - b. Class B.**
 - c. Class C.
 - d. Class D.
4. The acronym PASS stands for:
 - a. Ponder, Assess, stand, scream
 - b. Pull, aim, squeeze, sweep**
 - c. Push, aim, sweep, swift
 - d. None of the above.
5. When an extinguishing agent covers and cools the fire source, the fire loses its
 - a. Oxygen.
 - b. Fuel.
 - c. Heat.
 - d. All of the above.**
6. What is the best way to handle a fire?
 - a. Use fire protection.
 - b. Follow company/home fire prevention guidelines.**
 - c. Sound the fire alarm and call for help from a safe place.
 - d. All of the above.
7. The most common type of fires involve wood, paper, rubber and plastics.
True or false?