



## Protect Your Family From Fire

- Nearly *four times* as many fires occur in residences as in non-residences, and they are far more deadly
- 85% of all US fire deaths happen in homes.
- Smoking materials are the cause of 24% of home fire fatalities.
- Heating equipment (like space heaters) is the source of an additional 24% of home fire fatalities.
- Cooking equipment is the source of 15% of home fire fatalities, and by far the leading cause of home fire injuries.
- Children under age five are 8 times more likely to die in a fire caused by playing with a heat source than are older children and adults.



How you can protect your family:

### Prevent Fire

1. Don't smoke in bed or when sleepy.
2. Turn off portable space heaters when you leave the room or go to sleep.
3. Turn off the stove if you have to answer the phone or leave the room.
4. Put away matches or lighters in a high cabinet or locked drawer, out of sight and reach of children.

### Be Prepared If a Fire Occurs

1. Install a smoke alarm. One working smoke alarm on each floor is better, and one working smoke alarm inside every sleeping area is best. The National Fire Protection Association and the International Association of Fire Chiefs recommend installing both ionization and photoelectric alarms, or dual alarms that incorporate both technologies. Ionization smoke alarms respond best to flaming fires, and photoelectric to smoldering fires.
2. Press the test button on your smoke alarm to make sure it's still working, even if it's hard-wired or has long-life batteries.
3. Plan and practice a home fire drill. Make sure everyone in your home knows what to do when the alarm sounds:
  - Get out right away.
  - Go to your meeting place. Choose a meeting place in front of your home or where firefighters can see you.
  - Don't go back inside for anything.

For step-by-step help in planning your escape, visit [www.homefiredrill.org](http://www.homefiredrill.org).