



FIRE SAFETY AT HOME

**A safe home environment
begins with you!**

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FIRE SAFETY INFORMATION

Cooking Equipment

Cooking is the number one cause of home fires.

- Keep appliances clean, and wipe surfaces after spills. Clean stove surfaces and ovens regularly.
- Wear tight-fitting sleeves, or roll them up when cooking
- Keep flammable objects, including pot holders, dish towels and curtains, at least three feet away from the stove.
- Assure microwaves have enough room to breathe and that all the vents are cleared of obstructions.

Heating Equipment

Heating equipment is the leading cause of home fires during the winter months and is the second-leading cause of home fires year-round.

- Don't leave space heaters on when you leave the room.
- Space heaters should be kept at least three feet away from anything that can burn.
- Don't use extension cords with space heaters. The high amount of current they require could melt the cord and start a fire.
- When lighting a gas space heater, strike your match first, then turn on the gas.
- Never use a gas range as a substitute for a furnace or space heater.

Electrical Distribution Equipment

Wiring, outlets, switches, circuit breakers and other electrical devices are the third leading cause of home fires and the second leading cause of fire deaths.

- Avoid extension cords. If an extension cord is absolutely necessary, make sure that it is not frayed or worn. Do not run cords under carpet or around doorways.
- Never overload a socket. The use of "octopus" outlets or "power bar," outlet extensions that accommodate several plugs, is strongly discouraged. Try to limit one high-wattage appliances for each individual outlet at a time.
- Make sure there's plenty of air space around home entertainment units such as the TV and stereo, to prevent overheating.

Smoking

Smoking is the leading cause of home fire deaths in the US.

- Never smoke in bed.
- Always look under cushions and in trashcans for burning cigarettes before going to bed.
- Check carpeting where ashtrays have been used.



