



AUSTIN FIRE DEPARTMENT

HOME SAFETY TIPS



<http://austintexas.gov/page/fema-fire-grant>
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Smoke Alarms

EARLY WARNING SAVES LIVES

The easiest and most effective thing you can do to prevent a fire tragedy in your family is to have working smoke alarms.

PLACEMENT

*Install on the ceiling or wall, four to twelve inches from where they meet.

*Avoid Corners.

*Place at least one smoke alarm on every level of your home, in every bedroom, and in every bedroom hallway.

KEEP THEM WORKING

*Test alarms once a month, replace batteries once a year, and replace alarms every 10 years.

*A working smoke alarm is the cheapest life insurance money can buy!

Fire Extinguishers

A fire extinguisher can control a SMALL FIRE before it can grow.

SELECTION

A Class ABC Fire Extinguisher is recommended for home use.

SAFE PLACEMENT

*Keep them near exits and accessible in areas such as the kitchen, garage, or workshop.

*Check your fire extinguishers once a year.

Use? CALL 911 BEFORE USE

First: Is the fire small and contained?

Second: Are you near an exit?

If YES to both, then:

P = pull the pin

A = aim low (at the base of the fire)

S = squeeze the handle

S = sweep from side to side

Home Fire Drills: Plan to Live

Step 1 - Map it Out

Obtain or draw an outline map of your house or apartment.

Identify two exits from each room.

Step 2 - Check Your Plan

Choose a safe meeting place a short distance from your home.

Windows should open easily.

Step 3 - Practice

Practice home fire drills at least twice a year, once during the night.

WHEN YOU HEAR THE ALARM

*Get low and go to an exit.

*Get out and stay out; don't go back inside for any reason.

*Go to your designated meeting place.

*In case of a true emergency, call 911.

Kitchen Fire Prevention

Almost half of all house fires begin in the kitchen

ORGANIZE A SAFE KITCHEN

Do not store anything on the stove

Maintain a kid-free zone 3 feet around the stove/oven.

Do not overload electrical outlets.

Clean crumbs and grease buildup from cooking appliances regularly.

PRACTICE SAFE COOKING

Never leave cooking food unattended (unattended cooking is the main cause of kitchen fires).

Keep pot handles turned toward the back of the stove.

Wipe up spills when they happen.

Supervise animals and young children in the kitchen.

IN CASE OF A KITCHEN FIRE — CALL 911

Do not touch or move a flaming pot.

Cover the pot with a lid and turn off the heat.

Use a fire extinguisher.

NEVER USE WATER ON A GREASE FIRE!!!

