

Home Fire Safety Tips for Smokers

Smoking is the number 1 cause of home fire deaths across the country. You can prevent fires caused by cigarettes and other smoking materials.

Be a fire-safe smoker.

If you smoke, be a fire-safe smoker. Follow these tips to prevent a home fire and be prepared.

Smoke outside. Many things in your home can catch on fire if they touch something hot like a cigarette or ashes. It is always safer to smoke outside.

Never smoke in bed. Mattresses and bedding can catch on fire easily. Do not smoke in bed because you might fall asleep with a lit cigarette.

Put cigarettes out all the way. Do this every time. Don't walk away from lit cigarettes and other smoking materials. Put water on the ashes and butts to make sure they are really out before you put them in the trash.

Put your cigarette out in an ashtray or bucket with sand. Use ashtrays with a wide base so they won't tip over and start a fire.

Do not smoke after taking medicine that makes you tired. You may not be able to prevent or escape from a fire if you are not alert.

Never smoke around medical oxygen. Medical oxygen can explode if a flame or spark is near. Even if the oxygen is turned off, it can still catch on fire.

Have working smoke alarms.

Smoke is a poison that can kill you. Without a smoke alarm, you may not wake up from the smoke, and it can kill you in your sleep. This is why home fires are the most dangerous at night or when people are sleeping.

Have working smoke alarms. You should have a smoke alarm on every level of your home. You should also have a smoke alarm inside bedrooms and outside sleeping areas. The sooner you know there is a fire, the more time you have to escape.

Test your smoke alarms once a month. Use the test button to make sure your smoke alarms are working. A smoke alarm with dead batteries is the same as not having a smoke alarm.

Replace smoke alarms after 10 years. Smoke alarms do not last forever. If your alarms are 10 years old or older, replace them with new alarms.

Make an escape plan.

You may have less than 3 minutes to get out of your home if there is a fire. It is important to have an escape plan before a fire occurs, so everyone is prepared and ready to act.

Make a plan. If there is a fire, you may have less than 3 minutes to get out of your home. Talk about what you should do to be safe. Make sure everyone in your home knows what to do if there is a fire. Practice your fire escape plan at least 2 times a year.

Protect others. Do your part to make your home safe for yourself and others who live with you.

Keep smoking materials away from children. Some children are curious about fire. Keep lighters and matches locked up in a high place. Never leave cigarette lighters or matches where children can reach them.

Is your home fire-safe?



Put a check in front of each statement that is true for your home.

- People only smoke outside and never in bed.
- People put cigarettes out safely in an ashtray with a wide base that will not tip over.
- People never smoke around medical oxygen.
- People never smoke after drinking alcohol or taking medicine that makes them tired.
- Smoke alarms are on every level of the home and inside and outside of sleeping areas.
- Smoke alarms are tested each month.
- Smoke alarms are less than 10 years old.
- There is a fire escape plan that shows 2 ways out of every room.
- The escape plan is practiced at least 2 times a year.



Always smoke outside. Never smoke in bed.

Many things in your home can catch on fire if they touch something hot like a cigarette or ashes.

U.S. Fire
Administration



FEMA



Learn more about fire prevention: www.usfa.fema.gov

Don't Let Your World Go Up In Smoke.



Home Fire Safety Tips For Smokers