

Home Fire Safety Checklist

Provided by Texarkana, AR Fire Department



✓ To Do

- Make sure house numbers are clearly visible from the street
 - Make sure family has and practices a home escape plan
 - Ensure that all smoke detectors are in good working order & tested monthly
 - Locate smoke detectors on every level of the home
 - Locate smoke detectors in and outside every sleeping area
 - Place carbon monoxide detectors on every level of the home (if gas appliances or a fireplace is used)
 - Help your child memorize home address and how to call 911
 - Use extension cords properly
 - Cords are not to be run through doorways or holes in the walls or ceiling
 - Cords are not to be attached to building surfaces
 - Cords are to be unplugged when unattended or not in use
 - Ensure that all receptacle and switch cover plates are installed & intact
 - Ensure that switches are in good condition-no evidence of shorting, arcing and/or overheating
 - If there are young children (under 5 years of age) in the home, have tamper-resistant outlets
 - Always keep the stovetop clear of things that can burn (paper, plastics, etc.)
 - Unplug small appliances (blenders, toasters, food processors) when not in use
 - Do not use the stove or oven to heat the house
 - Keep a portable fire extinguisher in the kitchen (ABC rated)
 - Keep the kitchen hood clean and maintained
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- Keep grease build-up removed
- Have smokers in your home smoke outside
- Keep matches and lighters inaccessible to young children
- Never leave burning candles unattended
- Keep combustibles stored at least 3 feet away from water heaters, space heaters and furnaces
- Set water heater at 120 degrees Fahrenheit or less
- Have furnace cleaned and inspected annually. Replace filters as needed
- Have clothes dryer vent pipes cleaned annually
- If using a fireplace, have a proper screen and a hearth
- Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet from the fireplace when in use
- Have chimneys inspected and cleaned annually if used
- Have a solid door between the garage and the residence
- Store gasoline-powered equipment in an outside shed or garage, separate from the home
- Store gasoline in an approved safety container in an outdoor shed or garage, separate from the home
- Use a barbecue grill only outside, at least 10 feet from the home
- Make sure that outside electrical receptacles are GFCI and are in good working condition with no signs of shorting, arcing and/or overheating
- Clear the home of any items that may block your way out in an emergency (stacks of magazines, newspapers, clothes, etc.)
- Ensure any windows that may be used for escape can be opened easily and are not blocked by furniture, security bars or nailed/painted shut
- Make sure any security bars have a functioning quick-release device to allow for easy opening

Questions or comments please contact the Texarkana Arkansas Fire Department at (870)779-4956
