

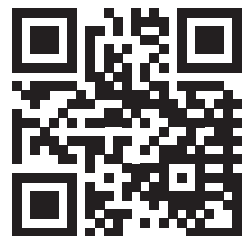


FDNYSmart

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for videos and more!



Remember: Follow @FDNY for More Safety Tips!



FDNY Smart is an initiative by the FDNY Foundation and its partners. Learn more at fdnyfoundation.org

Call 911



Dial 911 any time there is a threat to life or property, including fires, smoke, odors of gas or medical emergencies. It is important to call 911 quickly because the situation can worsen quickly.

When Calling 911...

- Stay calm. Know your location. If you don't know where you are, look for buildings, landmarks and street signs.
- Answer the dispatcher's questions. Your answers will help determine the kind of help you need and who should be sent to help.
- Follow instructions. The dispatcher is trained to explain how to perform first aid while help is on the way.

Fire Extinguishers

Portable fire extinguishers can be an important component of home safety. Most importantly, users must understand how and when to deploy a fire extinguisher. Improper use may result in spreading the fire, causing serious injury or death.

Fire needs fuel, oxygen and heat to burn. When used properly, a fire extinguisher applies an appropriate agent that will cool the burning fuel or remove the oxygen, so the fire cannot continue to burn.

The appropriate type of extinguisher must be used for the corresponding type of fire. Portable fire extinguishers are classified for use on certain types of fires and rated for the relative extinguishing effectiveness. There are three classes of extinguishers. Class A is for ordinary combustibles (wood, paper), Class B is for grease, gasoline and oils. Class C is for burning electrical wires. Others can be used for all types of fires. A fire extinguisher rated 2-A:10-B:C is adequate for extinguishing all class fires. Be sure to read manufacturer's directions carefully.

Extinguishers should be hung with the brackets supplied by the manufacturer or placed on an accessible shelf with the operating instructions facing outward.

When using a fire extinguisher, remember to use the acronym PASS (Pull, Aim, Squeeze and Side to Side Motion).



Remember: Only Call 911 for Emergencies!

Have Working Smoke/CO Alarms



Example of an alarm with a sealed 10-year battery.

Fact

In recent years, 70% of fire deaths have occurred in homes where there were no working smoke/carbon monoxide alarms.

Your risk of dying in a fire is cut in half when there are working smoke/carbon monoxide alarms in your home.

Working smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms save lives by quickly giving you and your loved ones an early warning signal that something is wrong. Fire spreads quickly and carbon monoxide is a silent killer.

Working alarms are the most critical component of your escape plan.

- Be sure to have the right type of alarm. Alarms must be approved by Underwriters Laboratories (look for a UL mark) and have an audible end-of-life warning. All new and replacement smoke alarms should have a sealed 10-year battery that is non-replaceable and non-removable.
- Have both a smoke alarm and a CO alarm (or a combination smoke/carbon monoxide alarm). One type of alarm is not a substitute for the other.
- If your alarm still uses removable batteries, be sure to change them twice a year. A great reminder is changing batteries on days clocks are changed for daylight saving time. Replace these alarms with ones that contain sealed 10-year batteries as soon as possible.

Alarm Installation

- Install alarms where you sleep and on every level of your home, including basements.
- Locate alarms on the ceiling,

preferably near the center of the room, but not less than four inches from a wall. If the alarm must be installed on a wall, it should be placed between four and 12 inches from the ceiling.

- Consider installing interconnected alarms so that when one alarm sounds, they all sound.
- Special alarms should be installed for those who are hard of hearing or deaf. Strobe lights and bed shakers are available.

Alarm Maintenance

- Test your alarms regularly by pressing the test button.
- Replace alarms every 10 years or when the alarm signals that it has reached the end of life and needs to be replaced.
- Keep alarms clean by regularly dusting or vacuuming.

When an Alarm Sounds

- If a CO alarm sounds, you and your family should get out immediately and call 911.
- If a smoke alarm sounds, be sure to execute your escape plan.
- If an alarm is set off accidentally, quiet the alarm by pushing the hush or reset button. Open windows and turn on vent fans to clear the air.
- Accidental alarms often are triggered by bathroom steam or cooking vapors. Consider relocating alarms that often sound by accident. □

Remember: Only Working Alarms Save Lives!

Plan and Practice

Beyond having smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms in your home, it's also essential to have an escape plan in case of an emergency. Everyone in your household should help make the plan and practice it regularly. As part of your escape planning process, be sure you know if you live in a fireproof or non-fireproof building. Knowing if a structure is fireproof or non-fireproof will help you determine if you should stay or go, depending on the circumstances of the fire in your building. Always listen to instructions from the Fire Department personnel during emergencies.

Plan

Walk through your home and inspect all possible exits. Be sure all escape routes and hallways are clear of clutter and storage. Consider drawing a floor plan of your home and mapping two ways out for each sleeping area. If you live in an apartment building with three or more units, review its Fire Safety Plan.

- Be sure to identify a primary and secondary escape route.
- Teach everyone in your home how to unlock and open windows, doors

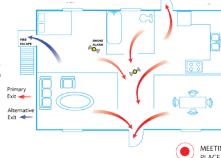
- and all security devices.
- Remind all family members to close doors behind them as they exit.
- Designate family members responsible for waking children or older adults.
- Agree on a meeting place outside your home.
- Stress the importance of calling 911 once in a safe location.
- Remember, fire escapes can be used as a secondary escape route.

Practice

Make household drills realistic. Since most fires occur overnight, start drills in sleeping areas and darken your home as if it is smoke-filled.

- Begin the drill with the sound of the smoke alarm.
- Practice escaping through smoke by crawling low on hands and knees.
- Follow your escape plan from the beginning, all the way through to your assigned meeting place outside your home. □

Make Your Own Map on Page 12



Residential apartment buildings with three or more dwelling units are required by NYC Fire Code to develop a customized Fire Safety Plan.

The plan must contain basic fire safety tips and information about the building, including the type of construction, the types of fire safety systems and the different ways of exiting the building in case of fire or during evacuation.

Building Personnel Must:

- Post the plan on the inside of every apartment front door.
- Post the plan in a common area.
- Distribute a copy to each unit.
- Provide a copy to new tenants at the time of the lease.
- Re-distribute the Fire Safety Plan annually during Fire Prevention Week in October.

Remember: In a Fire, Stay Low and Go!

Know the Type of Building You Live In



Know all ways you can get out safely!



EXIT

ELEVATOR



The type of building you live in affects how you and your loved ones should plan for and escape a fire. Knowing if you live in a fireproof or non-fireproof building ultimately can save a life. If you are unsure if your building is fireproof or non-fireproof, call 311. Remember, if you are in imminent danger from a fire or a fire is burning inside your apartment, get out immediately and call 911. Always listen to instructions from the Fire Department during emergencies.

Non-Fireproof Buildings

If you live in a non-fireproof structure and there is a fire in your building, it usually is safer to leave immediately. Generally, fires in non-fireproof structures are not contained easily to one portion of the building and can spread quickly.

Fireproof Buildings

If you live in a fireproof building, it usually is safer to stay inside your apartment rather than entering dangerous, smoke-filled hallways. Generally, fires in fireproof buildings will be contained to the portion of the building where the fire started. Additionally, if the fire is below your apartment,

you could risk being caught in rising heat and smoke in stairwells. If you and your loved ones are not in imminent danger from a fire or a fire isn't burning inside your apartment, do the following:

- Keep your door closed.
- Seal doors or openings with duct tape, wet sheets or wet towels.
- Turn off air conditioners.
- It is okay to open your windows a few inches unless flames or smoke are coming from directly below.
- Do not break the windows as you may need to close them later.
- Call 911 and give the dispatcher your apartment number and description of the conditions. Follow instructions from dispatchers; they are trained to help.
- Remember to always listen to instructions from the Fire Department personnel during a fire or emergency.

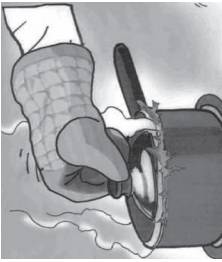
Once you have information about the type of building you live in, incorporate it into your escape plan. □

Remember: It's Important to Know If Your Building is Fireproof!

Avoiding Top Three Causes of Fire

#1 Cooking Safety

The preparation of meals is the leading cause of home fires and fire injuries. While cooking...



- Do** enforce a kid-free zone around your stove while cooking.
- Do** keep area around stove clear of towels, pot holders or anything that could burn.
- Do** cook at indicated temperature settings rather than higher settings.
- Do** clean cooking equipment, stove and area around the stove regularly.
- Do** have a pot lid and/or baking soda handy to smother a pan fire.
- Do** shut off the stove and cover the pan if there is a fire.
- Do** shut off the stove before pouring baking soda over the fire.



- Don't** leave cooking food unattended.
- Don't** wear loose-fitting clothing while cooking.
- Don't** pick up a pan that is on fire.
- Don't** use water to extinguish a pan fire. It will cause splashing and spread the fire.

#2 Electrical Safety

Overloaded outlets are one of the main causes of home fires. Did you know that two-thirds of all electrical fires start because there are too many items such as refrigerators, air conditioners and lights plugged in? Follow these rules...

- Do** make sure to use lightbulbs that are the appropriate wattage for the light fixture.
- Do** protect electrical cords from damage.
- Do** make sure your electrical cords and appliances have (UL) marks.



Do use three-pronged electrical devices in three-pronged outlets.
Do use extension cords only for temporary use.
Do use Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCI) whenever an electrical outlet is within six feet of a water source (sink, tub).

Don't use damaged electrical cords.

Don't run electrical cords under carpets or rugs, around objects or hang from nails.
Don't overload your outlets. This includes power strips.

Don't use extension cords, regardless of gauge, with large current appliances.

Don't plug large current appliances, such as a refrigerator or an air conditioner, into the same outlet or on the same circuit.



Power strips and surge protectors don't always protect from fires. If you rely heavily on power strips, you probably have too few outlets in your home and need to consult a professional.

#3 Smoking Safety

Careless smoking remains one of the leading causes of fire deaths. Smokers are seven times more likely than non-smokers to be fire victims.



Do use large, deep, non-tip ashtrays.
Do check upholstery and cushions for cigarette butts that may be smoldering.
Do douse cigarette butts completely with water before discarding them.



Don't permit smoking around the storage or use of an oxygen tank.
Don't leave lighted cigarettes in ashtrays.



Don't leave an ashtray on the arm of a couch or chair.

Don't smoke in bed or while lying down.

Don't smoke when you are drowsy or taking medication that makes you sleepy.



...you catch fire



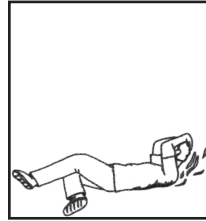
STOP

Do **NOT** walk or run. It will make the fire worse!



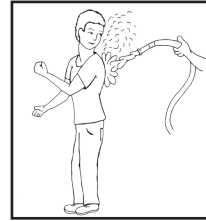
DROP

to the ground.



ROLL

back and forth to extinguish fire. Cover face with your hands.



COOL

the burn with water.



CALL

911 for help.

...you need to treat a burn

Burns can be caused by direct contact with an open flame, hot liquids, grease or a hot surface. Many burns may be deeper than they appear and require immediate medical attention. Remove clothing from affected area, but do not attempt to remove clothing that sticks. Treat with cool (not cold) running water. Cover the burn with a sterile pad or clean sheet. Never apply ointment, grease or butter to the burned area. Seek immediate medical attention to prevent burn inflammation and infections.

...you need to perform CPR

Stay calm. Have someone call 911 immediately. If needed, wait for instructions from the dispatcher and/or rely on previous training.

New York City residents can sign up for a free, 30-minute class on compressions-only CPR (please note, this program does not offer CPR certification at this time). The classes are taught throughout the year by certified FDNY EMS personnel at various locations. To date, the program has successfully trained thousands of New Yorkers in this lifesaving technique.

Learn more at fdnysmart.org/cpr

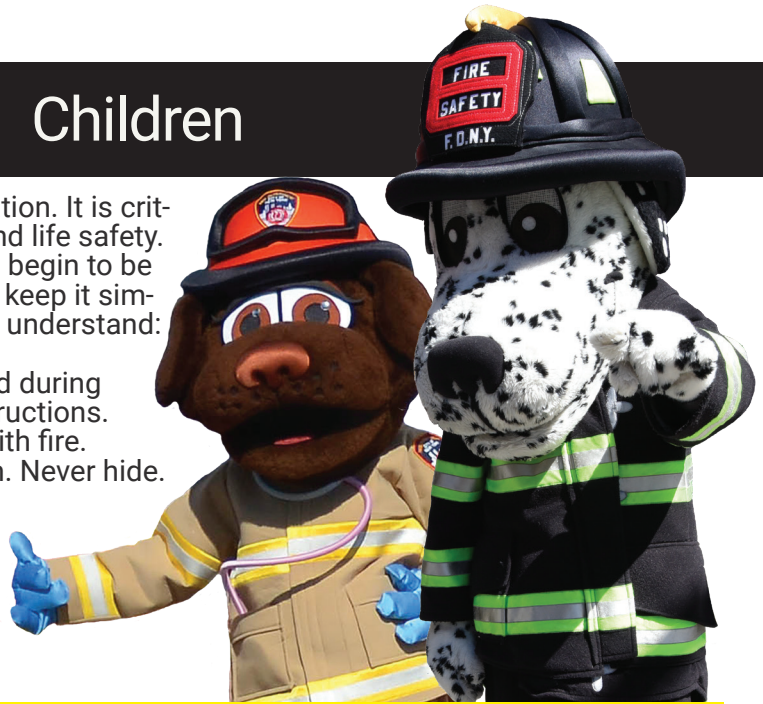
Remember: Stop, Drop, Roll, Cool and Call 911!

Children

Children are a vulnerable population. It is critical to teach them about fire and life safety. As early as age three, children can begin to be educated on this topic. A few tips; keep it simple and stress messages they can understand:

- First responders can be trusted during emergencies. Follow their instructions.
- Fire is NOT a toy. Never play with fire.
- During emergencies, stay calm. Never hide.

Have children get involved with escape planning and family drills.



Remember: Fire is NOT a Toy!

Seniors

Seniors aged 65 and older are more than twice as likely to die in a fire. Older adults are also at a higher risk of injury from fire. The top three causes of fire deaths among the senior population are smoking, heating equipment and cooking. The following are some tips to keep the senior population safe.

- Do** make sure you have working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.
- Do** completely put out your cigarette butts if you smoke.
- Do** be alert when cooking.
- Do** place space heaters at least three feet away from anything that burns.
- Do** keep eyeglasses, hearing aids and walkers close by bedside.
- Don't** smoke in bed or while lying down, especially when drowsy or taking medication.
- Don't** leave burning candles unattended.
- Don't** leave candles burning overnight.
- Don't** use an oven, stovetop, dryer or grill to heat your home.
- Don't** use water to extinguish a kitchen fire.
- Don't** wear loose-fitting clothing, such as a nightgown or robe, when cooking.
- Don't** use damaged or frayed cords, especially for warming equipment such as blankets.
- Don't** use extension cords, regardless of gauge, with large current appliances.



Remember: Don't Be Scared, Be Prepared!

Spring and Summer



If your alarm still uses removable batteries, be sure to change them when we spring ahead for daylight saving time!

Check your grill before and during BBQ season. Once lit, never leave a grill unattended.

Mother's Day in May and Father's Day in June are great times to review family escape plans.

Every June, FDNY celebrates National CPR/AED Awareness Week. Watch for free events in your borough.

Beat extreme heat by wearing loose, lightweight clothing and a hat. Don't forget to apply sunscreen.

Enjoy the water safely. Swim only near lifeguards.

Fire hydrant spray caps are a safe and fun way to stay cool. Visit a local firehouse to request one. Please note, you have to be 21 or older and show ID to get a spray cap.

Remember, air conditioners should be plugged directly into the wall outlet. Do not use extension cords for your AC.

On the 4th of July, leave fireworks to the professionals. Fireworks are illegal in NYC.

In spring and summer, observances of Purim, Palm Sunday, Passover/Pesach, Easter/Pascha, Lag B'Omer, Ramadan and Eid Al-Fitr present unique opportunities to protect loved ones from the dangers of fire. Review cooking safety and ensure smoke and CO alarms are in working order. If candles are used, never leave them unattended. Purim costumes should be flame-resistant. For all holidays, don't block escape routes with decorations or other items and don't overload electrical outlets.

Remember: Follow @fdny For Seasonal Tips All Year!

Fall and Winter



If your alarm still uses removable batteries, be sure to change them when we fall back for daylight saving time!

Cold and snowy weather in winter, peak fire season, are of particular concern.

Every October, FDNY celebrates Fire Prevention Week. Watch for free events in your borough.

Halloween and Thanksgiving are fun times. But, be sure to review safety tips with family members. Costumes and decorations should be flame-resistant. Cooking safety should be a priority.

During freezing weather, limit your time outdoors. Wear a hat, gloves and scarf when outside.

Take precautions to avoid slips and falls during icy conditions. After snowstorms, be safe while shoveling.

Never walk on frozen water no matter how low the temperature dips. There is no such thing as safe ice.

Remember, never use your oven/stove to heat your home. When using space heaters, be sure to keep them three feet away from bedding and other materials. Never connect space heaters to an extension cord or power strip. Use electric blankets with care.

During Lunar New Year, leave fireworks to the professionals. Fireworks are illegal in NYC.

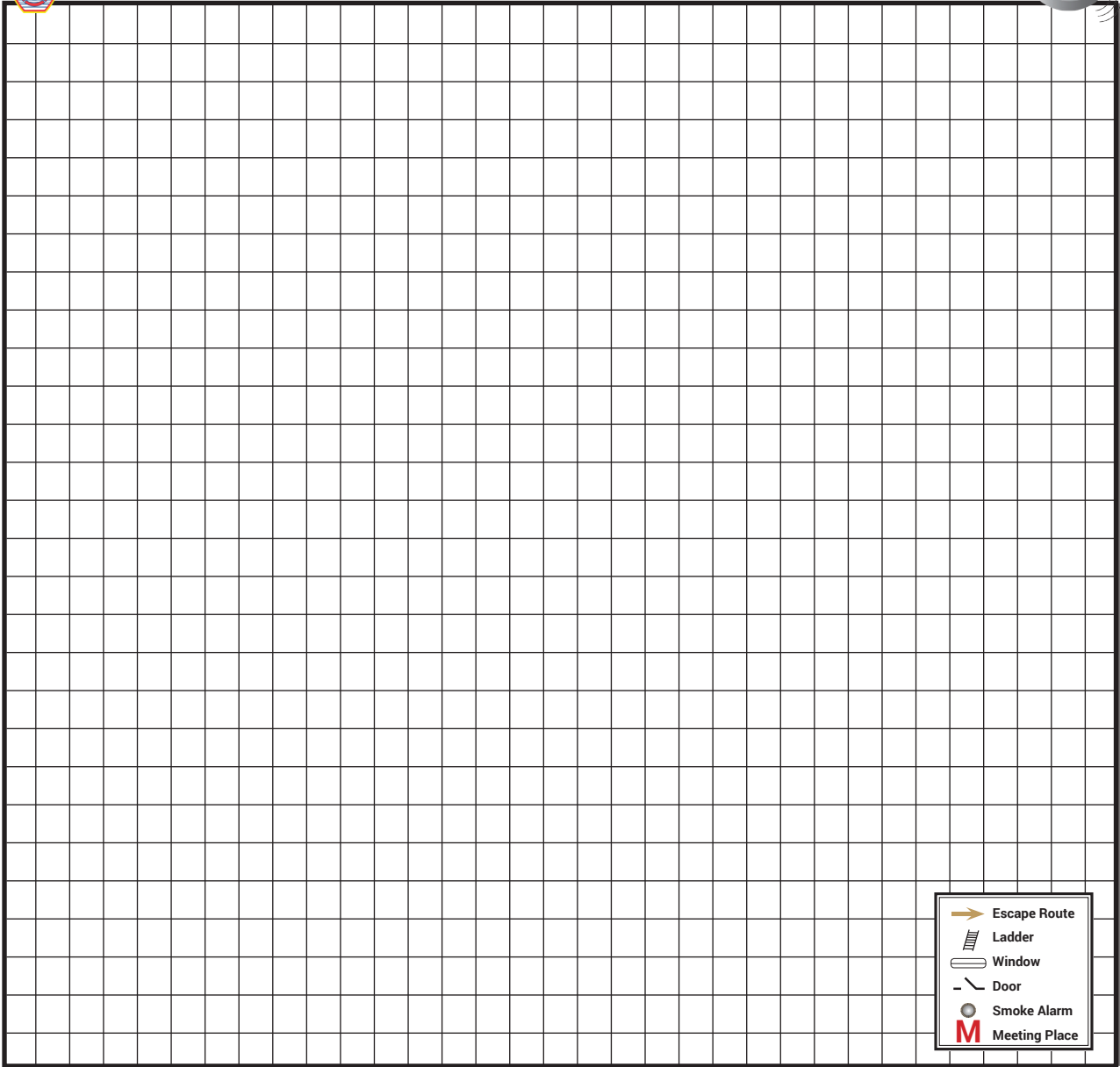
In fall and winter, observances of Yom Kippur, Rosh Hashanah, Christmas, Chanukah, Kwanzaa, Makar Sankranti and Holi present unique opportunities to protect loved ones from the dangers of fire. Review cooking safety and ensure smoke and CO alarms are in working order. If candles are used, never leave them unattended. For all holidays, don't block escape routes with decorations or other items and don't overload electrical outlets.

Remember: Follow @fdny For Seasonal Tips All Year!



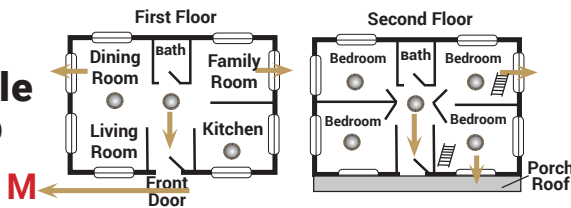
Our Escape Plan Map

POST IN YOUR HOME AND PRACTICE



	Escape Route
	Ladder
	Window
	Door
	Smoke Alarm
	Meeting Place

Sample Map



Call 911 quickly to report Fire, Smoke, Fumes, Odor of Gas and Medical Emergencies!

Call 311 for non-emergencies