

Smoke Alarms are the most effective way to prevent death and injury from house fires.

- Some alarms have a red light on the cover that will flash periodically when the alarm is working.
- Cooking or heavy cigarette smoke may cause the alarm to go off. Follow the directions provided with your alarm to temporarily silence the alarm. *Never remove the battery from an alarm.*
- If the alarm goes off and no smoke or fire is found, it may need to be moved to another location. Rooms that are damp and dusty, or cooking areas often cause false alarms.
- If your alarm goes off and keeps on sounding, exit your home quickly and call 911 or your local fire department from a neighbor's house.



LifeSavers

1000 N.E. 10th
Oklahoma City, OK 73117-1299

Phone: 405-271-3430
or 1-800-522-0204 (in Oklahoma)
Fax: 405-271-2799

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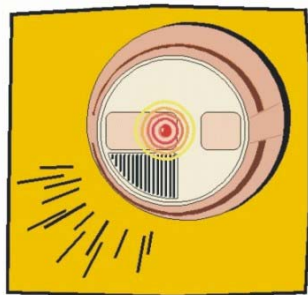
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How to Survive a House Fire

Did you know...

- In only 3 1/2 minutes, the heat from a house fire can reach over 1100°F. People die when the temperature is over 212°F.
- The heat from a fire can spread to every room in a home. In a matter of minutes, the temperature can go over 300° in rooms that are not even on fire. This is hot enough to melt plastic and kill the people in those rooms.
- Even with all the lights on in your home, the smoke from a house fire can be so thick that your home may be completely dark in less than 4 minutes.
- Fire produces fumes and gases. These fumes and gases can make you sleepy, confused and weak. You can't smell these fumes. So if you're asleep, the smell won't wake you, but a smoke alarm will.



Plan ahead

- Make and practice an escape plan with your family.
- Everyone should know two ways out of every room.
- If your home has two stories, find a safe way to climb out the window and get to the ground.
- Decide on a meeting place outside your home where everyone can gather.

Know what to do in case of a fire

- If in a house fire, crawl or stay low as you find a safe way out. The air closest to the floor will be less filled with smoke and fumes. This makes breathing and seeing easier.
- Use the back of your hand to test if a closed door is hot. If it is hot, do not open it. Use the other way out.
- Get out and stay out of the home.
- If your clothes catch on fire, stop where you are. Don't run. Quickly drop to the ground. Roll over and over. This will put out the flames.
- Call 911 or the local fire department from a neighbor's house.



Where to put your smoke alarm

- Place the alarm just outside the sleeping areas, such as the hallway outside the bedrooms.
- The best place is on the ceiling, at least 6 inches from the wall and at least 2 feet from any corner. Your alarm can also be placed on the wall about 6 inches from the ceiling and at least 2 feet away from any corner.
- If you live in a mobile home, place the alarm on an inside wall about 6 inches from the ceiling and at least 2 feet away from any corner.
- Avoid placing your alarm near air vents, doorways, bathrooms, windows, cooking stoves, garages or any other drafty or moist place.

How to test your smoke alarm

- Test your alarm monthly by following the directions provided with your smoke alarm.
- If the alarm is on the ceiling, use a broom handle to test.
- Remove dust from the alarm cover every six months.