



Each year, fire departments respond to over 400,000 residential fires. Annually more than 3,500 people die from fire in their own homes. In many cases, some simple steps may have prevented the fire from starting. The most common causes of home fires result from cooking, heating, electrical malfunction, smoking materials, and candles. Each of these activities carries with it a risk of fire, but that risk can be greatly lessened if you follow some common sense safety tips.



- Stay in the kitchen when you are cooking. Many fires start from "unattended" cooking.
- Maintain heating equipment and chimneys by having them inspected and cleaned annually by a qualified professional.

- If you smoke, put it out, all the way, every time.
- Keep things that can burn away from light bulbs, light fixtures, and lamps. For any suspected electrical problems, call a qualified electrician.



- Use flashlights during emergencies, not candles. If using candles, blow them out when leaving the room, and keep them away from things that can burn.