

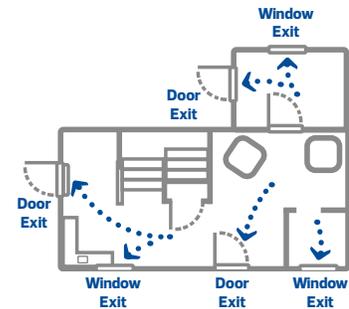
STAY SAFE  
SHEET

# HOME FIRE ESCAPE PLANNING



In the event of a fire, you will not have time to consider your escape options and may only have a few minutes to get out safely. That's why it's important to practice your home fire escape plan regularly so that you are prepared for an emergency, and that everyone in the home knows what to do and where to go in the event of a fire.

If you live in an apartment, meet with your landlord or building manager to learn about the fire safety features and plans in your building. Know the locations of all exit stairs from your floor and know where the muster point is.



## Fire Fact

Many people install security bars on their doors and windows to feel safe. But did you know that some security bars can trap you in a fire? They can also keep firefighters from getting in to rescue you. That's why it's important to choose security bars that have quick-release devices. Make sure everyone in the home can open them.

## SAFETY TIPS

- + **Make a home fire escape plan.** Draw a map or blueprint of your home, showing all doors and windows. Discuss the plan with everyone in your household.
- + **Know at least two ways out of every room, if possible.** Make sure all doors and windows leading outside can be easily opened.
- + **Choose an outside meeting place** (such as a tree or lamp post) that is a safe distance from the home. Make sure everyone in the household knows to meet there in case of a fire.
- + **Practice your home fire drill** both at night and during the day, with everyone in your household. Do this twice a year.
- + **Practice using different ways out.**
- + **Teach children how to escape on their own** in case you can't help them.
- + **Close doors** behind you as you leave. This may slow the spread of smoke, heat and fire.

## IF THE ALARM SOUNDS...

- + Get out and stay out.
- + Touch-test the doors before you open them.
  - + *If the door is cool, open it slowly and leave the building.*
  - + *If there is smoke, crawl low where the air is cleaner.*
  - + *If the door is warm, use your second escape route.*
- + Call 911 from outside your home.
- + Never go back inside for people or pets.



**SMOKE ALARMS  
SAVE LIVES**

TEST YOUR ALARMS MONTHLY

STAY SAFE  
SHEET

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## IF YOU CAN NOT ESCAPE...

- + Call 911 and tell them your exact location.
- + Close the door; seal the openings around the door and vents with wet bedding or wet towels.
- + Wait by a window and make your presence known to arriving firefighters.
- + If it's safe to open the window and there is no smoke, open it and yell for help.

Plan and practice your home fire escape plan. Always know two ways out

## PLAN YOUR ESCAPE AROUND YOUR ABILITIES

- + Keep a phone near your bed in case you are trapped by smoke or fire.
- + Place your wheelchair, cane, walker or scooter nearby for easy access.
- + Prepare an emergency kit with necessary items such as medications, glasses, hearing aids, warm clothes, etc.
- + Keep your coat and shoes nearby.

## HOME FIRE ESCAPE PLAN CHECKLIST

- We have prepared a fire escape plan.
- We have identified an outdoor meeting spot.
- We have practiced our fire escape plan.
- All doors and windows leading outside are accessible.
- We have an emergency medical kit and we all know where to find it.
- Mobility items are easily accessible in case of emergency.