

CHRISTMAS FIRE SAFETY

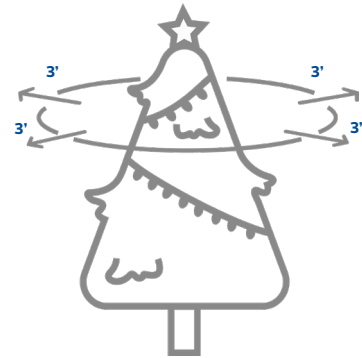


Entertain safely.

- + Never leave cooking food unattended.
- + Have activities on hand such as games, puzzles or books to keep kids occupied and out of the kitchen.
- + Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- + If your children are attending holiday parties at other people's homes, have them look for ways out of the home and plan how they would escape in an emergency.
- + Ask smokers to smoke outside and provide them with large, deep ashtrays. Remind them to keep their smoking materials away from children.

Candle with care.

- + Never use lit candles to decorate a Christmas tree.
- + Keep candles at least 3 feet (1 metre) away from things that can burn, such as Christmas trees, decorations and curtains.
- + Candles placed on tables, altars or shrines must be maintained under the supervision of an adult.
- + Consider using battery-operated candles which can look, smell and feel like real candles.



DECORATE WITH CARE

- + Keep decorations away from exits (windows and doors) so nothing blocks escape routes.
- + Keep all decorations away from open flames and other heat sources like light bulbs and heaters.
- + Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.

Unplug all decorative lights before leaving your home or going to bed.

Use decorative lights safely.

- + Only use lights that have the label of a recognized testing laboratory. Read the manufacturer's instructions to learn how many strands of lights can be safely connected together.
- + Make sure outdoor decorative lights, extension cords and outlets are weatherproof or identified for outdoor use.
- + Don't overload electrical outlets or run extension cords under carpets, across doorways or near heat sources.
- + Replace any string of lights that contain frayed cords or loose bulb connections.
- + Use clips instead of nails when hanging lights to prevent cord damage.
- + Take down outdoor decorative lights after 90 days to prevent damage from weather and animals.



PLAN AND PRACTICE

YOUR HOME FIRE ESCAPE PLAN.
ALWAYS KNOW TWO WAYS OUT
OF EACH ROOM.



SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES

TEST YOUR ALARMS MONTHLY

STAY SAFE
SHEET

CHRISTMAS FIRE SAFETY



Prevent Christmas tree fires.

For natural trees:

- + Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.
- + Place the tree in a sturdy, non-tip stand and ensure that the stand is at least 3 feet (1 metre) away from heat sources (such as fireplaces, space heaters, candles, lights, heat vents/radiators).
- + Make sure the tree does not block any exits.
- + Check the water level of the tree each day and add water as needed.
- + Dispose of the tree within 4 weeks, or sooner if it dries out. Store it away from the house or garage.

For artificial trees:

- + Check that the tree is flame retardant.
- + Inspect the lights on pre-lit trees for damage prior to use.
- + Make sure the tree does not block any exits.
- + Place the tree at least 3 feet (1 metre) away from any heat source (such as fireplaces, space heaters, candles, lights, heat vents/radiators).

FIREPLACE SAFETY

- + Keep flammable materials away from the mantel including Christmas stockings and garland.
- + Fully extinguish the fire when you leave the room, home, or go to sleep.
- + Keep a metal screen or heat-tempered glass in front of the fireplace opening to prevent embers or sparks from jumping out and unwanted material from going in, as well as to help prevent burns.
- + Allow ashes to cool completely before disposing them in a covered, metal container. Keep the container at least 10 feet away from the home and other buildings.