

Smoke Alarms Save Lives

- Working smoke alarms save lives and can double your chances of surviving a fire.
- Install smoke alarms on every level of your home.
- Test your smoke alarm monthly.
- Clean your smoke alarm often. Keep it free of dust and replace the battery at least twice a year. Remember, improperly working smoke, especially alarms with missing batteries, cannot warn you of danger!



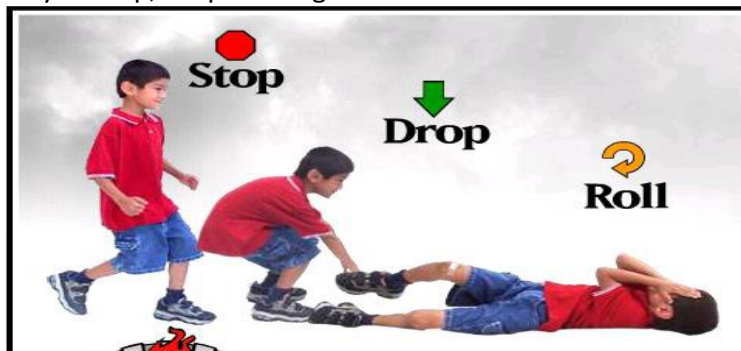
Special Populations:

Because fire safety information is critical to planning and overall preparedness, the Virginia Department of Fire Programs recommend the following safety tips for special populations:

- Include everyone in your home and make a home escape plan, making provisions for anyone who has a disability. Practice your plan at least twice a year
- Install smoke alarms on every level of your home and outside of each sleeping area.
- When developing your evacuation plan, remember to inform others if you have special needs. For example, if you live in an apartment building you may want to share your plan with the appropriate building and management personnel or your local fire department.
- If necessary, have a ramp available for emergency exits.
- Unless instructed by the fire department, never use an elevator during a fire.
- Be sure your street address is clearly marked and visible from the street.
- Know which local emergency services are available and have those numbers posted or memorized.
- People with hearing impairments cannot hear alarms and voice announcements that warn of danger and the need to evacuate.

Plan Your Escape

- Practice finding your way out of the house with your eyes closed, crawling or staying low and feeling your way out of the house.
- Never open doors that are hot to the touch.
- Teach your family to stop, drop to the ground and roll if their clothes catch fire.



- Make sure everyone in your family knows at least two ways to escape from each room in the house.
- Make sure everyone in the family understands and practices how to properly operate and

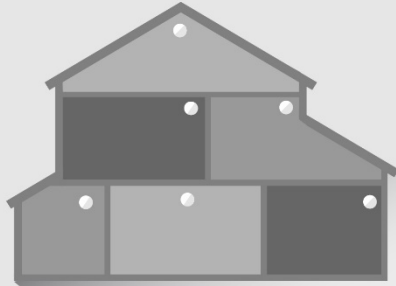
open locked or barred doors and windows.

- Designate a meeting place outside and take attendance. Get out and stay out.
- Remember to escape first, then notify the fire department.
- Finally, practice makes perfect! Practice your home fire escape plan every month.

TEN TIPS FOR FIRE SAFETY

1

Install smoke alarms on every level of your home, inside bedrooms and outside sleeping areas.



2

Test smoke alarms monthly. Replace batteries at least once a year.



3

Have a family fire escape plan and practice the plan twice a year.



4

If there's a fire in your home, get out, dial 911 and don't go back inside.



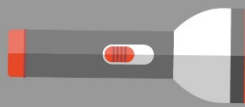
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Keep matches and lighters out of children's reach



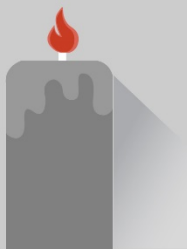
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Use flashlights during power outages, not candles.



7

Never leave a burning candle unattended.



8

Turn off space heaters when you leave the room and don't leave them unattended.



9

Only use smoking materials outside.



10

Keep flammable items away from anything that can get hot, such as space heaters.

