

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), more than 25% of all reported fires occur in homes. Most home fires result from:

- Cooking
- Heating
- Electrical Equipment
- Intentional Fire Setting
- Smoking



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Fire safety is important if candles are used in the house.

- Consider using battery-operated flameless candles, which can look very similar to real candles.
- When using candles, place them in sturdy, safe candleholders that will not burn or tip over. Protect candle flames with glass chimneys or containers.
- Keep candles at least 12 inches from anything that can burn and place burning candles at least 3 inches apart from one another.
- Never leave a burning candle unattended.

It's important that everyone who does the laundry understand how important it is to take care of the clothes dryer properly and follow some important safety tips to prevent a home fire.

- Clean out the dryer's lint filter before each use of the dryer. Remove the lint that has collected around the drum. **Do not use the dryer without a lint filter.**
- Clean lint out of the vent pipe quarterly or have a dryer lint removal service do it for you.
- Make sure the air exhaust vent pipe is not restricted and the outdoor vent flap will open when the dryer is operating. During winter, check the outdoor vent flap to ensure it is not covered by snow.
- Keep dryers in good working order. Gas dryers should be inspected by a professional to make sure that the gas line and connection are intact and free of leaks.

Most smoking-materials structure fires, deaths, and injuries occur at home, and smoking is the leading cause of fire deaths. Fires caused by smoking are entirely preventable.

- To prevent a smoking-related fire, you must be alert. You will not be alert if you are sleepy, have taken medicine or drugs that make you drowsy, or have consumed alcohol.
- Never smoke in bed.
- If you smoke, smoke outside. Most deaths result from fires that started in living rooms, family rooms and dens, or in bedrooms. Make sure to always extinguish cigarettes in a proper container.
- Do not throw out cigarettes into vegetation, potted plants or landscaping, peat moss, dried grasses, mulch, leaves, or other similar items because they can easily catch fire.
- Keep cigarettes, lighters, matches, and other smoking materials up high out of the reach of children, in a locked cabinet.

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