Philadelphia Fire Department

Home Fire Safety Checklist

PLAN TO GET OUT ALIVE

√ Do you have at least one smoke alarm on each floor of your home?  
√ Do you test your 9-volt operated smoke alarms weekly and replace the battery yearly?  
√ Do you test your 10-year lithium battery operated smoke alarms weekly?  
√ Have you installed a carbon monoxide alarm within 15 feet of each sleeping area and are they tested weekly?  
√ Does your family have a “Home Fire Escape Plan” with a pre-determined location to meet outside?

PLAN TO BE FIRE SAFE

√ Do you always make sure that matches and smoking materials are out before disposing of them?  
√ Have you made “Take Smoking Outside the Home” a safety rule for your family?  
√ Do you read the warning labels on all aerosol cans? Some propellants are highly flammable.  
√ If you have a family member in your home using oxygen is smoking forbidden in the same room with the oxygen equipment?

ELECTRICAL HAZARDS

√ Are there enough electrical outlets in each room to avoid the need for multiple attachment plugs and long extension cords?  
√ Do you have special circuits for heavy-duty appliances such as air conditioners?  
√ Do you frequently check extension cords and appliance cords for wear?  
√ Do you avoid draping extension cords and wire over pipes or nails?

HOUSEKEEPING HAZARDS

√ Do you keep your basement, closets and attic clear of combustible materials?  
√ Do you keep paint, varnish and other metal containers tightly closed?  
√ Do you properly dispose of unwanted hazardous materials such as paint and varnish?  
√ Does everyone in your family know never to use gasoline or other flammable fluids for indoor cleaning?

HEATING AND COOKING HAZARDS

√ Do you always turn off portable heaters when you go to bed?  
√ Do you always refill the fuel tank of your portable heaters outdoors?  
√ Do you make sure that every portable heater is a safe distance away, at least 3 feet, from combustibles, such as, bedding and furniture?  
√ Are your kitchen stove, oven and broiler kept clean of grease?  
√ Are curtains near kitchen ranges and heating equipment arranged so that curtains do not blow over or near the stove?  
√ Do you make sure food that is cooking is not left on the stove unattended?  
√ Do you turn pot handles inward from the edge of the stove?

SPECIAL FOR PARENTS

√ Do you keep matches and cigarette lighters out of the reach of children?  
√ Do you leave a responsible person with your children when you go out (even for a short time)?  
√ Does your babysitter know what to do in case of a fire or medical emergency?  
√ Do you keep burning candles away from children and away from combustibles?

FOR FIRE OR MEDICAL EMERGENCY, DIAL 9-1-1  
FOR SMOKE ALARMS, CALL: 311  
FIRE DEPARTMENT WEBSITE: www.phila.gov/fire

Translated versions of this document are available at: www.philasd.org/translation (search word “PFD”)