

# Home Safety Checklist

**We went over a lot these points during our safety talk, but below is an expanded list.**

## Smoke Alarms

- There is one smoke alarm on every level of the home and inside and outside each sleeping area.
- Smoke alarms are tested and cleaned monthly.
- Smoke alarm batteries are changed once a year.
- Smoke alarms are less than 10 years old.

## Cooking Safety

- Cooking area is free from items that can catch fire.
- Kitchen stove hood is clean and vented to the outside.
- Pots are not left unattended on the stove.

## Electrical & Appliance Safety

- Electrical cords do not run under rugs.
- Electrical cords are not frayed or cracked.
- Circuit-protected, multi-prong adapters are used for additional outlets.
- Large and small appliances are plugged directly into wall outlets.
- Clothes dryer lint filter and venting system are clean.

## Candle Safety

- Candles are in sturdy fire-proof containers that won't be tipped over.
- All candles are extinguished before going to bed or leaving the room.
- Children and pets are never left unattended with candles.

## Carbon Monoxide Alarms

- Carbon monoxide alarms must be located within 15 feet of bedrooms. You can have one on every other level of your home, if you so choose.
- Carbon monoxide alarms are less than 7 years old.

## Smoking Safety

- Family members who smoke only buy fire-safe cigarettes and smoke outside.
- Matches and lighters are secured out of children's sight.
- Ashtrays are large, deep and kept away from items that can catch fire.
- Ashtrays are emptied into a container that will not burn.

## Heating Safety

- Chimney and furnace are cleaned and inspected yearly.
- Furniture and other items that can catch fire are at least 3 feet from fireplaces, wall heaters, baseboards, and space heaters.
- Fireplace and barbecue ashes are placed outdoors in a covered metal container at least 3 feet from anything that can catch fire.
- Extension cords are never used with space heaters.
- Heaters are approved by a national testing laboratory and have tip-over shut-off function.

## Home Escape Plan

- Have two ways out of each room.
- Know to crawl low to the floor when escaping to avoid toxic smoke.
- Know that once you're out, stay out.
- Know where to meet after the escape.
- Meeting place should be near the front of your home, so firefighters know you are out.
- Practice your fire escape plan.

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Call your local **Fire Department** or **Naperville Chimney Sweeps** for more information or specific questions  
More checklist and tips can be found at [www.usfa.fema.gov](http://www.usfa.fema.gov)