

HOME & COTTAGE FIRE ESCAPE PLAN

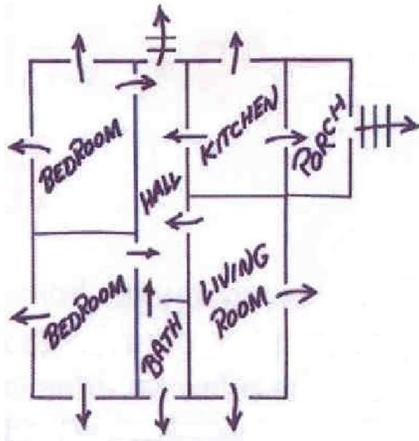
Develop and practice one today...It could save your life tonight!

If a fire occurred in your home tonight, would your family get out safely? Everyone must know what to do and where to go when the smoke alarm sounds.

Take a few minutes with everyone in your household to make a home fire escape plan by following the instructions below.



1. Draw a floor plan of your home.



Use the grid on the next page to draw a floor plan of your home. Make sure you draw a plan for each level of your home.

2. Include all possible emergency exits.

Draw in all the doors, windows and stairways. This will show everyone in your family all possible escape routes at a glance. Include features such as the roof of a garage or porch that would help in your escape.

3. Show 2 ways out of every room if possible.

The door will be the main exit from every room. However, if the door could be blocked by smoke or fire identify an alternate escape route, which could be a window. Make sure that all windows can open easily and that everyone knows how to escape through them to safety. If windows have security bars, equip them with quick release devices.

4. Does anyone need help to escape?

Decide in advance who will assist the very young, old or people with disabilities. A few minutes of planning will save valuable seconds in a real emergency.



5. Choose a meeting place outside.

Choose your meeting place a safe distance from your home that everyone will remember. A tree, rock, dock or a neighbour's place are all good choices. In case of fire everyone will go directly to this meeting place in order to be accounted for.

6. Call for help from outside your home.

Don't waste valuable seconds calling for help from inside your home. Once you have safely escaped do not put someone's life back in jeopardy by re-entering the burning house or cottage. Plan how you will contact help from outside before the emergency arises, for instance, a cell phone or the neighbour's place.

7. Practice your escape.

Review the plan with everyone in your household. Walk through the escape routes from each room with the entire family. Use this walk-through exercise to check your escape routes, making sure all exits are practical and easy to use. Then hold a fire drill twice a year and time how long it takes. In a real fire you must react without hesitation as your escape routes may be quickly blocked by smoke or flames.

Remember

- ✓ Plan 2 ways out of every room if possible
- ✓ Hold a fire drill twice a year
- ✓ Install smoke alarms on every level of your home or cottage and outside all sleeping areas

see next page to draw your floor plan

Draw a floor plan of your home or cottage showing 2 ways out of every room, if possible.

