

KITCHEN AND FIRE SAFETY

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Facts.

- Unattended cooking equipment is the leading cause of home fires and the second leading cause of home fire deaths
- Cooking causes an average of 172,900 reported home structure fires per year
- Cooking caused 49 percent of reported home fires, 20 percent of reported home fire deaths, and 42 percent of home fire injuries
- Ranges or cooktops were involved in 61 percent of reported home cooking fires and 87 percent of cooking fire deaths
- More than one-quarter of the people killed by cooking fires were asleep when they died and more than one-half when they tried to control the fire themselves

What to know about home cooking safety

- Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, grilling, boiling or broiling food
- Use a timer to remind you that you are cooking
- Keep anything that can catch fire away from your cooktop and keep a lid for the pan you are cooking with nearby
- If you have a cooking fire, turn off the fuel source, gas or electric, get out and close the door to contain the fire
- If you try to fight the fire have others leave and have a clear way out
- For an oven fire, turn off the heat and leave the door closed
- Call 911 after you leave

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Other NFPA Home Fire Facts

- Home heating equipment is a leading cause of home fires and the third leading cause of home fire deaths
- Wiring and related equipment accounted for 7% of all home fires and 9% of all home fire deaths
- Smoking materials cause 5% of reported home fires, 21% of home fire deaths and 10% of home fire injuries
- Fires caused by candles cause 90 deaths and 670 injuries per year, Christmas is the peak day for candle fires
- People over the age of 65 are twice as likely to be killed or injured by fires than the general population at large
- People with disabilities are at greater risk of being injured or killed in a home fire

What you should know about fire safety in the home

- Keep space heaters and outdoor grills at least 3 feet away from anything flammable
- Never smoke in bed and never leave candles unattended
- Install smoke alarms on every level of your home
- Store an ABC rated fire extinguisher on every level of your home
- Have chimneys, fireplaces and the central furnace serviced every year
- Create multiple escape plans with different escape routes and a designated meeting place in the yard and practice them with your family at least twice a year