

Fire Escape Plan Instructions

Draw a floorplan of your home

Be thorough, include windows, doors, outdoor features and possible obstacles in your drawing. Know at least two ways out of every room.

Learn your escape routes and keep them clear

Walk through the primary and alternative escape routes, making sure all exits are accessible to all members of your household. Be sure that windows in your home are not painted shut or blocked, and do not have a screwed-on screen or storm window that can't be opened from the inside. Have your children practice opening the windows. Have second story appropriate escape routes with ladders if necessary.

What to do when you have escaped

Plan a meeting place

Choose a nearby spot, away from the building where all members of the household will meet after they've escaped from a fire. Mark the meeting place on your floor plan.

Get out and stay out!

During a real fire do not go back in your home for any reason until the fire department says that it is safe. Discourage anyone from going back into the burning building to attempt to rescue any people, pets or possessions.

Teach your children what to do in a fire

Have each child in your household know how to call the 911 emergency phone number. Escape first and then call the 911 emergency phone number from neighbor's house or cell phone.

Too often in the case of a fire, children are found trying to hide in a closet or under a bed. Fire and smoke are frightening and the impulse to hide from them is natural. You must teach your children that they must escape from fire and never hide.

Tips to remember:

Practice your escape plan twice a year

Try an unannounced drill to make the experience as realistic as possible

Discuss the similarities of a home drill and a school drill, children are more familiar with their regular school fire drills and can compare the two situations to make the home drills less confusing

Make sure everyone in your home knows the sound of your smoke alarm

In a real fire, you must be prepared to move quickly, carefully and calmly. Don't let the fire drill become a race

Make sure everyone knows exactly what they are supposed to do individually

Vary your drills by pretending some escape routes are blocked.

Fire Escape Plan



Write it!

Draw it!

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