

**10**

## IMPORTANT TIPS

To Remember For Fire  
Safety And Awareness



INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL  
**BUILDING  
SAFETY**

**1**

Put a smoke alarm on every level of your home and outside each sleeping area.  
Put a smoke alarm inside every bedroom.

**2**

Make sure your smoke alarms work. Test your smoke alarms. When you push the test button, you should hear a loud noise. If you don't hear the noise, you need a new battery or a new alarm.

**3**

Make sure the smoke alarm always has a good battery.  
Put a new battery in the alarm every year.

**4**

Smoke alarms with long-life batteries will work for up to 10 years.  
You do not change the battery.

**5**

Smoke alarms do not last forever.  
Get new smoke alarms every 10 years.

**6**

Tell your family what to do if they hear the smoke alarm. Make an escape plan so everyone knows how to get out fast. Pick a meeting place outside the home where everyone will meet. Some children and older adults cannot hear the smoke alarm when they are sleeping. Make a plan for how to wake them up. Practice your escape plan with everyone in your family two times each year.

**7**

Install home fire sprinklers in your home. Home fire sprinklers and working smoke alarms greatly increase your chance of surviving a fire. Sprinklers are affordable and they can increase your property value and lower your insurance rates.

**8**

Portable heaters need their space. Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away.

*If you live in an area where homes are located in or close to forests or vegetation areas, you should think about the following safety tips.*

**9**

Install 1/8 inch or smaller mesh screening that cannot burn on attic/soffit vents and around wood decks to keep out embers. Install spark arrestors on fire place chimneys or wood stove vents.

**10**

Keep all items that can burn away from your home. Clean leaves from your gutters. Clear dead leaves and branches from shrubs and trees.

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