

Create a **FIRE ESCAPE PLAN** for Your Family

The thought of a home fire is every parent's nightmare. But the possibility of a fire should serve as a wake-up call to create an **escape plan** to protect your family.

The reality is that every year fire will kill and injure Virginians. A **Fire Escape Plan** may protect your loved ones.

It is important to practice your escape plan with your children often.



Here are fire safety tips that your plan should include:

- ✓ Check smoke detector batteries every six months.
- ✓ Show children two ways out of every room if possible.
- ✓ Teach children to stay low to the ground by crawling instead of walking in case the home is burning. Smoke rises.
- ✓ Instruct children to feel a closed door before opening it. If hot, try exiting through a window.
- ✓ Designate someone to be responsible for getting small children out of the burning home or apartment.
- ✓ Head outside quickly at the sound of a smoke detector. Practice your Fire Escape Plan using a timer.
- ✓ Instruct your child to call 911 after leaving the home, if not with you.
- ✓ Select a meeting spot away from your home.

Fire often strikes without warning. Knowing what to do in case it does gives your family a head start toward safety.



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1-800-552-7096 Virginia Child Abuse Hotline (language line available)
800-Children (800-244-5373) Parent Helpline