

# SAFETY TIPS



- Teach your children the importance of fire safety at an early age.
- If your clothing catches fire – Stop, Drop and Roll on the floor to smother the flames.
- Always purchase “child resistant” lighters.
- Keep candles, lighters and matches out of your child’s reach.
- Make sure your entire family knows what to do in case of fire – practise an escape plan.
- Never leave candles burning when you are not in the room.
- Do not place candles next to windows, curtains, fans or where children and pets can easily reach them.
- Use extreme caution when cooking with oil; heat it very slowly in the pan and never leave it unattended.

In case of emergency call 911 immediately.

For information or to find settlement services near you, visit [www.settlement.org](http://www.settlement.org)

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# Be safe

## PREVENTION

### What you can do



All parents want to protect their children. Making your home safe from fire is one important way to do this. The information in this brochure will help you to prevent household fires and keep your family safe.



### What causes household fires?

Fire claims the lives of many people. Home fires are responsible for most of these deaths. The most common causes of residential fires are: cooking, home heating, electrical problems, smoking, candles and children playing with fire.

### Early fire detection saves lives

Fire can spread very quickly and early detection can save lives. Install smoke alarms on every level of your home. They are required by law in Canada. Test them every month and change the batteries when required. To warn against gas leaks, install carbon monoxide detectors also. Some municipalities require them by law. They will help to make your home even safer.



### Be prepared

Teach your child the importance of fire safety at an early age. Always purchase "child resistant" lighters. Keep candles, lighters and matches out of reach. Instruct your child to tell you if they find any of these items.

Make sure your family knows what to do if their clothing catches fire. Always Stop, Drop and Roll on the floor to smother the flames.

Be sure your family knows what to do in case of fire. Practise an escape plan. If you live in an apartment building, learn the Fire Safety Plan for your building.

In a house if you see flames, smell smoke or hear the alarm, get everybody out. In an

apartment, feel the front door first. If it isn't hot, open it very slowly. If you see fire or smell smoke, use another exit. "Get low and go." Smoke rises and the air near the floor is safer to breathe. In an apartment, always use stairs and never elevators to exit. Arrange a safe meeting place outside and call 911.

If it is not safe to leave, seal the spaces around the door with blankets, sheets or towels. This will prevent smoke from entering the room. Call 911 if you can and signal for help at a window.



### Take extra care

Never leave candles burning when you are not in the room. Blow them out when you leave and before you go to sleep. Do not place candles next to windows, curtains, fans or

where children and pets can reach them.

Place candles in fire-resistant containers that can't tip over. Make sure the containers are large enough to collect any dripping wax.

Use extreme caution when cooking with oil. Heat oil very slowly in the pan. Do not leave it unattended. Keep a pan lid nearby to smother a fire. Do not pick up a pan when it is on fire; the flames could spread quickly. Cover the pan with a lid and turn off the heat.

