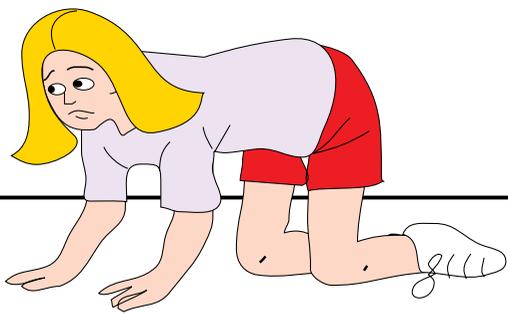


# 10 Fire Safety Tips



[www.manitoba.ca/firecomm](http://www.manitoba.ca/firecomm)

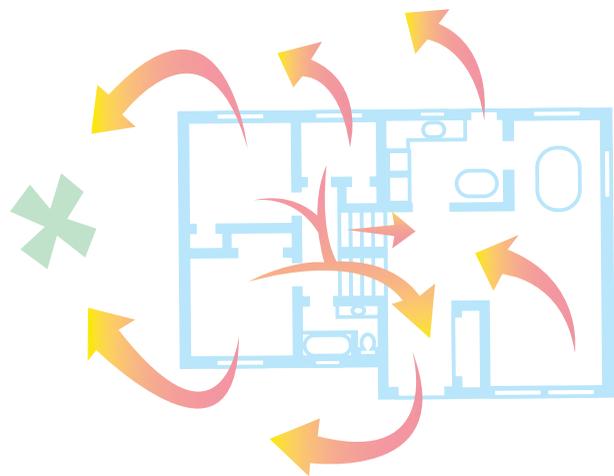
Manitoba 

## 1 Smoke Alarms

- Test your smoke alarms at least once a month by pressing the “test” button.
- Change the battery twice a year. If your smoke alarm does not respond after replacing the battery, replace the unit.
- Replace smoke alarms that are 10 years or older.

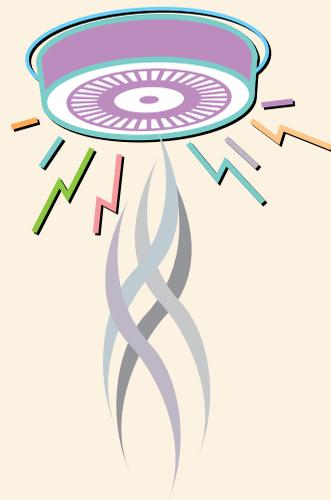
## 2 Have a Fire Escape Plan

- Draw a floor plan of every level of your home, showing two ways out of every room.
- Practice your escape plan with family members often, crawling low to avoid heat and smoke.
- Decide on an outside meeting place and from where you will call 9-1-1 or your local fire department.
- Get out and stay out! Never go back inside!



## 3 Carbon Monoxide

- Carbon monoxide is a gas you cannot see, taste or smell and can be fatal.
- Install and maintain carbon monoxide alarms outside each separate sleeping area and on every level of the home.
- When travelling or staying away from home, bring a travel carbon monoxide alarm.
- Test carbon monoxide alarms each month and replace them if they fail to respond to the test.
- Know the difference between the sound of a carbon monoxide alarm and a smoke alarm.



## 4 Practice Kitchen Safety

- Don't leave cooking unattended. Turn off the stove if you leave even for a second.
- Wear snug-fitting clothing to avoid catching pot handles.
- Always keep a pot lid and oven mitt close by.
- Turn pot handles inward so you don't bump them and children cannot grab them.
- Have a “kid-free zone”, one meter (three feet) around your stove when you cook.
- Avoid cooking when tired or on medication that causes drowsiness.

## 5 Keep Matches and Lighters Out of Sight

- Keep matches, lighters, and novelty lighters up high, out of reach of children.
- Purchase and use only child-resistant lighters.
- Teach children to tell a grown-up if they find matches or lighters and to never touch matches and lighters.

## 6 Careless Smoking Causes Fires

- If you smoke, smoke outside. Make sure to extinguish cigarettes in an ashtray, metal can, or pail filled with water or sand, and never dispose of cigarettes in potted plants or landscaping peat moss.
- Never smoke in bed.
- Never smoke where medical oxygen is used.
- Never leave charging electronic cigarettes unattended.

## 7 Using Electricity Safely

- Use light bulbs that match the recommended wattage on the lamp or fixture.
- Small appliances should be plugged directly into a wall outlet.
- Check electrical cords often and replace cracked, damaged and loose electrical or extension cords.
- Never pinch cords under furniture or run cords under rugs or carpets.
- Use only surge protectors or power strips that have internal overload protection.

## 8 Space Heaters and Portable Heaters

- Keep space heaters at least one meter (three feet) away from anything that can burn – including you!
- Turn heaters off when you go to bed or leave the room.
- Use space heaters that have an automatic shut-off – if they tip over, they shut off.
- Plug space heaters directly into wall outlets and never into an extension cord or power strip.

## 9 Candles

- Consider using battery-operated flameless candles.
- When using candles, place them in a sturdy, safe candleholder that will not burn or tip over.
- Keep candles at least 30 centimeters (one foot) away from anything that can burn.
- Never leave a burning candle unattended.

## 10 Clothes Dryers

- Do not use your dryer without a lint filter and clean out the dryer's lint filter before each use.
- Turn off the dryer when you leave the house or go to bed.
- If your clothing is taking longer than usual to dry, clean the lint out of the vent pipe.
- Keep dryers in good working order.

### STOP, DROP AND ROLL!

If your clothes catch on fire... Don't run!

- DROP, cover your face with your hands and ROLL over and over or back and forth until the fire is out.
- If a burn occurs...
- Treat the burn right away under cool water for three to five minutes.
  - Cover with a clean, dry cloth and seek medical attention.