



# Stay Safe Checklist for... homeowners

**[www.esfrs.org](http://www.esfrs.org)**

- ✓ Fit smoke alarms on each floor level in your home, keep them dust-free, and test them once a week. Consider buying a ten-year alarm; otherwise change the batteries every year.
- ✓ Take special care when you are tired or when you've been drinking. Most domestic fires happen between 10pm and 8am.
- ✓ Make an escape plan so that everyone in your home knows how to escape in the event of a fire.
- ✓ Keep the exits from your home clear of obstructions so that people can make their escape if there is a fire. Make sure that occupants can find keys for doors and windows easily.
- ✓ Take care in the kitchen - accidents while cooking account for over half of fires in the home. Never leave young children unsupervised in the kitchen.
- ✓ Take extra care when cooking with hot oil; if you don't use one already, consider buying an electric thermostatically controlled deep fat fryer.
- ✓ Never leave lit candles unattended and ensure that they are in a secure holder on a heat-resistant surface away from flammable materials.
- ✓ Don't overload electrical sockets. Remember one socket - one plug!
- ✓ Keep matches and lighters out of reach of children.
- ✓ Don't leave the TV or other electrical appliances on standby as this could cause a fire. Always switch it off and unplug it when not in use.
- ✓ Ensure cigarettes are stubbed out and disposed of carefully and never smoke in bed.