



Did you know that Thanksgiving is the peak day for home cooking fires? There are three times as many home fires occurring on Thanksgiving as on a typical day.

It's easy to get distracted while preparing Thanksgiving dinner and entertaining all at once. Never leave food cooking on the stove or in the oven unattended.

The holiday is only a few weeks away. It's important that your household understands their role in your home fire safety plan—from how the smoke detectors sound to what your home fire escape plan is.

Fire Safety Checklist

- Are the batteries working in all your smoke alarms?
- Does your home have interconnected smoke alarms (when one sounds, they all sound)?
- Do you test the batteries in the smoke alarms at least once a month?
- Does your family have a home fire escape plan that includes two ways out of each room?
- Does your entire family practice your plan twice a year?

Do the Drill

- Call the family together. Let everyone know that you are going to do a practice fire drill.
- Explain that when the smoke alarm goes off, everyone should quickly and carefully leave the home and go to the Outside Meeting Place.
- Ask everyone to go to a different room and wait for the alarm. After several minutes, set off the smoke alarm by pushing the test button and watch your family's actions.
- When everyone reassembles at the Outside Meeting Place, ask each family member to explain exactly what they did when the alarm went off.
- Review any questions.

Be Safe and Be Ready

Lydia Barard,
Emergency Response Team