

There are simple steps you can take to help keep your loved ones safe in and around the home.



Plano Fire Department
Public Education Office
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www.planofire.org

Home Safety Checklist

The Plano Fire Department offers the following home safety checklist as a guide to reduce the risk of fire and unintentional injuries.

Smoke Alarms

The majority of home fire deaths happen at night, most often from smoke and poisonous gases, not the fire itself. Install smoke alarms on every level of your home and outside all sleeping areas. For extra protection, consider installing a smoke alarm in every bedroom. Be sure to test batteries at least once a month and never remove the batteries from your smoke alarm except to replace them.

Fire Extinguishers

A multipurpose dry chemical Class ABC fire extinguisher is the best choice for general home use. Mount the extinguisher on a bracket on the wall near an exit so that anyone using it can escape from the room if a fire spreads. Periodically check the gauge to make sure it has pressure. All adult occupants of the home must know when and how to use the extinguisher properly. Remember the acronym P.A.S.S.

Pull the pin that unlocks the operating pin.

Aim low. Point the nozzle or hose at the base of the fire.

Squeeze the lever above the handle to discharge the extinguishing agent.

Sweep the nozzle or hose from side to side. Keep the extinguisher aimed at the base of the fire and sweep back and forth until the flames appear to be out.

Carbon Monoxide Alarms

Carbon monoxide gas is poisonous, but you can't see, smell, or taste it. Check all fuel-burning appliances to be sure they work properly: furnace, water heater, stove, oven, fireplace, wood stove, and space heater. Put a carbon monoxide alarm near where people sleep. Be sure your alarm has the Underwriters Laboratories (UL 2034) label.

Medicines and Household Cleaners

Make sure all medications, caustic cleaning products (example: drain openers, toilet and oven cleaners, rust removers, etc.), automotive fluids (example: windshield washing solution and antifreeze), pesticides, fertilizer and other household chemicals are in their original containers and in a locked cabinet. Buy medicines and household products in child-resistant packaging. Close caps tightly after using medicines and household products. Lock medicines and household products up high so children can't see or reach them.

Poison Centers

Every Poison Control Center in the country can be reached by calling the American Association of Poison Control Centers nationwide hotline, 1-800-222-1222. Post this number by every phone in your home. Experts will answer your call 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

