

Plan Your Escape

A wise family has a home evacuation plan in case of fire or emergency. Hundreds of people are needlessly hurt because of the confusion and disorder caused by fires. However, if you have a plan, the chances of anyone getting hurt are reduced considerably.

Here are some helpful hints on how to prepare a home evacuation plan:

1. Draw a floor plan of your home, clearly showing all exits.
2. Show the different routes which can be taken when a fire is in each section of the house. Plan and rehearse two exits from every room.
3. Have fire drills regularly to see if your plan works. Don't wait until you have a fire to test it.
4. If you have any elderly, disabled, or very young members in your family, assign someone to help them in case of emergency.
5. Make sure you have a specified meeting place outside your home. Then you can make sure everyone is accounted for. Once safely out, **never** return to a burning building.
6. Always sleep with bedroom or hall doors closed. A door can keep fire out long enough to let you escape.
7. Agree on a warning signal to alert others in the house if a fire breaks out.