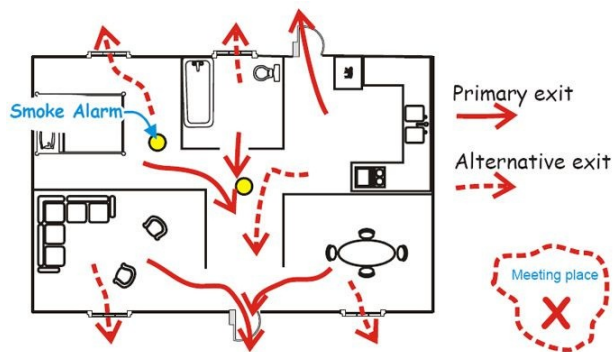


SAFETY TIPS for Fire Escape Planning

Working smoke alarms can mean the difference between life and death in the event of a home fire, but there is more you need to do to ensure your family is prepared to safely escape from a fire emergency. Once the smoke alarm sounds, you may have only a few minutes to get out. Prepare a fire escape plan for your family before an emergency happens.

The following tips will help you develop a safe and effective family fire escape plan:

- Everyone in your family, including children, should be involved in creating your fire escape plan.
- Make sure everyone in your home knows what the fire alarm sounds like and what it means.
- Walk through your home and note any possible exits, including windows. Draw a floor plan of your house and mark two ways to escape from each room. Make sure that doors and windows leading to the outside can be opened easily by everyone in the family.
- Establish a meeting place a safe distance outside your home where your family will gather after escaping. The meeting place should be something permanent and easy to identify, such as a tree, light pole, or mailbox, and should be a place where firefighters will easily see you.
- Teach everyone in the family to call 911 from a neighbor's home or cellular phone once they have safely gotten outside.
- Practice your escape plan by having at least two fire drills every year. One of your drills should occur during the night when your family members are sleeping.



We'd like to thank the Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI) for these helpful guidelines.