



Tulsa Fire Department

Protecting Community Life, Health, Property and the Environment
By Delivering Quality Life and Fire Safety Services.

Community Relations / Public Education Branch

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Fire Escape Planning

Only one-fifth to one-fourth of households (23%) have actually developed and practiced a home fire escape plan to ensure they could escape quickly and safely. In 2006, there were an estimated 396,000 reported home structure fires and 2,580 associated civilian deaths in the United States.

One-third of American households who made an estimate thought they would have at least 6 minutes before a fire in their home would become life-threatening. The time available is often less. And only 8% said their first thought on hearing a smoke alarm would be to get out! The Tulsa Fire Department offers the following life-saving tips that could make a big difference to you and increase your survival rate dramatically.

Fire Escape Planning Life-Saving Tips

- Install a smoke alarm on every level of your home and test the alarm every month and change the batteries when you change your clocks (twice a year)
- Practice finding your way out of the house with your eyes closed, crawling low and feeling your way out
- Always crawl low under the smoke (Smoke is the killer not the fire itself)
- Never open doors that are hot to the touch
- Make sure everyone knows at least two ways out of every room and practice using both
- Designate a meeting place outside away from the house and make sure that it is an immovable object (tree, neighbor's driveway, fence post, etc.)
- Take attendance once you're out
- Remember to escape first, then notify the fire department
- Teach your family to stop, drop, and roll if their clothes catch fire. Remember Get out and Stay out

Did You Know?

- Eighty-two percent of all fire deaths occur in the home
- Fire can spread rapidly through your home, leaving you as little as two minutes to escape safely
- Your ability to get out depends on advance warning from smoke alarms, and advance planning
- Having a working smoke detector reduces one's chances of dying in a fire by nearly half
- For more information on how you can help prevent fire deaths, please contact The Tulsa Fire Departments Community Relations / Public Education Branch @ 669-6186