



Home fire escape planning and practice NFPA Fact Sheets

Everyone, including preschoolers, can be taught the basics of home fire escape. Developing and practicing a home fire escape plan is the key to survival should a fire occur in the home.

Facts & Figures

- According to [NFPA's 1997 Home Fire Escape Survey](#), only a small number of families (16%) have actually developed and practiced a home fire escape plan to ensure they could escape quickly and safely.
- In 2000, there were 3,420 home fire deaths in U.S.*



*(From NFPA's *Fire Loss in the United States*, 2001)

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Safety Tips:

- A home fire escape plan should include: working smoke alarms on every level of the home and outside all sleeping areas and working Carbon Monoxide alarms on every level as well;
- two ways out of each room; unobstructed and easy-to-use exits; a meeting place outside; a posted emergency phone number for the fire department; and practicing the plan at least twice a year with every member of the household.
- If there are infants or family members with mobility limitations, someone in the household should plan to assist them.
- Make sure that doors needed for escape can be opened easily and that windows are not nailed or painted shut.
- React to the sound of a [smoke alarm](#) immediately and make getting out your top priority.
- Never go back inside the home for any reason.

