



Henrico County Division of Fire

Home Fire Safety Checklist



Striking out fire in your home requires a little homework. We would like to take about 20 minutes to inspect your home. We will answer the questions below as we go from room to room. For each question answered "yes" to, you get a point. When you're finished, add up the points to find out your score.

First Base - Cooking Safety

- | | | |
|-----|----|---|
| Yes | No | Do you always stay in the kitchen when food is cooking on the stove? |
| Yes | No | Are stove tops and counters clean and uncluttered? |
| Yes | No | Are curtains and other things that can burn well away from the stove? |
| Yes | No | Are there pot holders within easy reach of the stove? |
| Yes | No | Are pot handles turned inward so they can't be bumped? |

Second Base - Heating Safety

- | | | |
|-----|----|--|
| Yes | No | Are portable space heaters always turned off when you leave the room or go to sleep? |
| Yes | No | If space heaters are used in your home, are they at least 3 feet away from anything else that can burn, including people, furniture, and pets? |
| Yes | No | Does your fireplace have a sturdy screen to catch sparks? |
| Yes | No | Has your chimney been inspected and cleaned during the past year? |
| Yes | No | Has your furnace been serviced by a professional in the past year? |
| Yes | No | Are propane tanks and other fuels stored outside your home? |

Third Base - Electrical Safety

- | | | |
|-----|----|--|
| Yes | No | Are extension cords used safely? (Not under carpets or across doorways?) |
| Yes | No | Are electrical cords in good condition, without cracks or frayed areas? (Cords should be unplugged before inspecting.) |
| Yes | No | Are kitchen appliances – such as the coffee-maker, toaster oven, and microwave – plugged into separate receptacle outlets? |

Home Plate

- Smoke Alarms/ Home Fire Escape

- | | | |
|-----|----|---|
| Yes | No | Does your home have smoke alarms outside each sleeping area? |
| Yes | No | Are the batteries working in all your smoke alarms? |
| Yes | No | Are your smoke alarms less than 5 years old? |
| Yes | No | Are all the exits in your home clear of furniture and clutter? |
| Yes | No | Does your family have a home fire escape plan that includes two exits, usually a door and a window, from each room? |
| Yes | No | Has your family picked a safe place to meet outside after you exit your home? |
| Yes | No | Have you and your family practiced a home fire drill within the last six months? (Why not do one tonight?) |



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What is your Fire Safety Batting Average?

If you answered “yes” to all of the checklist questions above, congratulations! You scored a fire safety home run!

If you answered “yes” to 15 to 20 questions, you’ve made it to third base. Just make a few adjustments, and you’ll easily hit a fire safety home run.

If you answered “yes” to 10 to 14 questions, you’ve hit a double. You’re going in the right direction, but you’ve got some work to do before you get to home plate.

If you answered “yes” to fewer than 10 questions, you’ve reached first base, but you need to make many changes around your home in order to reach home plate.

For all questions to which you answered “no,” make sure your family takes the steps needed to make them a “yes” so you can all score a fire safety home run!

If you have additional questions or need assistance with your fire safety efforts, please contact us at FireDept@henrico.us or 804-501-4900.