

SPRINTING TO FIRST KITCHEN SAFETY

Cooking fires are the #1 cause of home fires and home fire injuries.

Last year in Ohio, there were 4,080 cooking related fires resulting in property loss of \$14.2 million.



Unattended cooking is the leading cause of home cooking fires.

Three in every 10 reported home fires start in the kitchen - that's more than any other place in the home.

On average, there are 91,700 reported home fires each year associated with cooking equipment, killing 327 people and injuring 4,607.

COOKING SAFETY ADVICE

Never leave food cooking unattended

Keep cooking areas clean and clear of combustibles

Keep a three-foot (one meter) "kids-free zone" around the stove

Turn pot handles inward

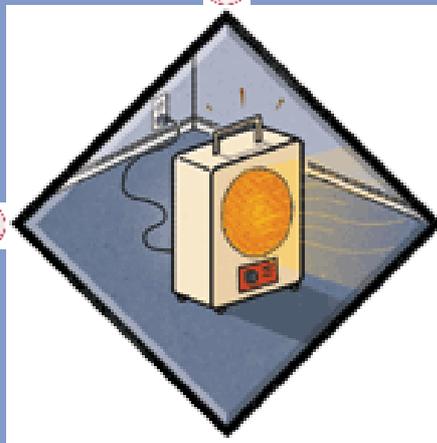
Wear short, close fitting, or tightly rolled sleeves when cooking

Never use a wet oven mitt, as it presents a scald danger

HEADING FOR SECOND HEAT SAFETY

Heating fires are the second leading cause of home fires.

Last year in Ohio, alternative heating devices caused 1,881 fires which resulted in \$16.3 million in property damage.



About half of all home heating fires are caused by wood stoves and portable heaters.

Installing space heaters too close to combustibles (or placing combustibles too close to them) are major causes of space heater fires.

On average, there are 59,100 reported home fires per year associated with heating equipment, killing 468 people and injuring 1,592. During the months of December, January, and February, heating is the leading cause of home fires.

HEATING SAFETY ADVICE

Space heaters need space, at least three feet (one meter) away from anything that can burn, including people and pets

Always use the proper fuel in a heater, never use gasoline to start a fire or fuel a kerosene heater

Portable space heaters should be turned off every time you leave the room or go to sleep

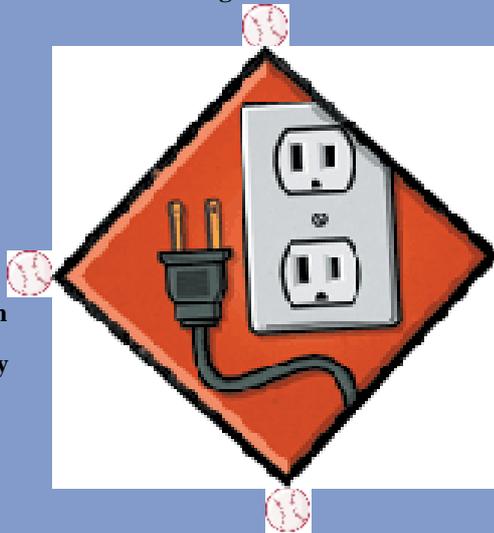
Have a sturdy screen on your fireplace, a metal screen or built-in glass doors

Never place a heater where it can block someone's exit from a room or the home

ROUNDING THIRD ELECTRICAL SAFETY

Fixed wiring causes 1/3 of home electrical distribution fires.

Last year in Ohio, while many residential electrical fires are preventable, there were 2182 such fires resulting in \$25.8 million in damage.



Cords and plugs cause 1/6 of home electrical distribution fires and 1/3 of related deaths. In many cases, people can easily check and fix them, if necessary, without a licensed electrician.

Each year, electrical shock (not resulting in a fire) causes hundreds of burn deaths and thousands of burn injuries. Nearly 2/3 of electrical burn injuries among children ages 12 and under are associated with household electrical cords and extension cords.

On average, there are 38,400 home fires per year associated with wiring, switches, outlets, cords and plugs, fuse and circuit breaker boxes, and other equipment involved in distributing electricity around the home, killing 352 people and injuring 1,343.

ELECTRICAL SAFETY ADVICE

Replace or repair any electrical device with a loose or frayed cord

Avoid running extension cords across doorways or under carpets

In homes with small children, electrical outlets should have plastic safety covers

Avoid the use of "cube taps" and other devices that allow the connection of multiple appliances into a single receptacle

Place lamps on level surfaces, away from things that can burn

In the kitchen, push back the cords of countertop appliances to keep young children from pulling them off the counter

HOME PLATE THE BASICS

Eighty percent of all U.S. fire deaths occur in the home.

In residential fires reported to the Division of State Fire Marshal in 2000, a smoke detector was not present nearly 30% of the time.

Where a detector was present, 14% of the time it did not operate properly.



Someone is killed in a home fire in the United States and Canada roughly every 3 hours. 85% of the people killed in fires in Ohio last year died in their own homes.

Smoke alarms are the most effective early warning device available. Having a smoke alarm in your home cuts your chance of dying in a fire nearly in half!

In the United States and Canada, a home fire is reported to a fire department roughly every 75 seconds, killing 350 people and injuring more than 1,300. Last year, 125 Ohioans died in residential fires.

BASIC SAFETY ADVICE

Install at least one smoke alarm on each level of your home and in or near all sleeping areas

Smoke alarms should be tested once a month and batteries replaced once a year or when the alarms beep, warning that the battery is low

Every household should develop and practice a home fire escape plan that includes two ways out of every room and an outside meeting place

Never "borrow" a smoke detector's battery for another use

Once outside, do not go back inside for any reason