

West Des Moines Fire Department

QUICK HOME FIRE INSPECTION

OK Needs Work

Install Smoke Detectors

- ~ ~ 1. All smoke detectors and CO detectors have been tested this month.
- ~ ~ 2. The batteries in all your smoke detectors and CO detectors have been replaced this year.
- ~ ~ 3. Smoke detectors are cleaned out periodically.
- ~ ~ 4. There are smoke detectors on every floor of the house (including the basement) and outside of every sleeping area (this is a minimum. If you do not have any smoke detectors please contact the West Des Moines Fire Department).

OK Needs Work

Know Your Fire Extinguisher

- ~ ~ 1. Extinguisher pressure gauges are checked yearly (Needle should be in the green area of the gauge).
- ~ ~ 2. Extinguishers are in a conspicuous place (everyone knows where they are located).
- ~ ~ 3. Every adult in the household knows how to properly operate *your* extinguishers.
- ~ ~ 4. Fire extinguishers are inverted and tapped on the bottom periodically (chemical packs down like flour over time, making it less effective).

OK Needs Work

Plan Your Escape From Fire

- ~ ~ 1. There are two ways out of every room.
- ~ ~ 2. All windows have been exercised periodically (They open with ease).
- ~ ~ 3. All persons in the household can safely egress through all designated exits.
- ~ ~ 4. All doors close securely (can you close the door to fire?).
- ~ ~ 5. A predetermined meeting place has been established and practiced by all family members in case of a fire.
- ~ ~ 6. Escape plan practiced once a year (twice recommended).

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Use Electricity Safely

- ~ ~ 1. Outlets do not have more than one item per outlet (power- strips may be used as multi-functional outlets).
- ~ ~ 2. All outlets have cover plates securely fastened to the wall.
- ~ ~ 3. Breaker box has a cover/ door and all knockouts are filled.

OK Needs Work **Fireplaces, Wood Burning Stoves & Portable Heaters**

- ~ ~ 1. Wood burning stoves, portable heaters and fireplaces have at-least 3 feet of clearance from combustibles (ie: newspapers, plants, dry wood, etc.).
- ~ ~ 2. Wood burning stoves and fireplaces are being vented properly.
- ~ ~ 3. A trained professional has cleaned and inspected the chimney/ flue this year (annual cleaning/ inspection is advised).

OK Needs Work **Candles Burn**

- ~ ~ 1. Candles are kept out of reach of children and away from combustibles.
- ~ ~ 2. Matches and Lighters are put away and are out of reach of children (This should be considered to avoid mischievous use by all children under the age of 18).
- ~ ~ 3. Never leave candles unattended.

OK Needs Work **Furnace & Water Heater**

- ~ ~ 1. A trained professional has checked it this year (annual check is recommended).
- ~ ~ 2. There are no combustibles within 30 inches of the gas furnace, water heater or gas dryer.
- ~ ~ 3. CO detector installed.

OK Needs Work **Keep An Eye On Smokers**

- ~ ~ 1. Smokers use deep ashtrays.
- ~ ~ 2. Smokers are very careful with smoking materials.
- ~ ~ 3. Matches and lighters are out of reach of children!!!

OK Needs Work **Flammable Liquid Storage**

- ~ ~ 1. Flammable liquids are stored in tight metal containers (including rags etc. that have absorbed flammable material).
- ~ ~ 2. Flammable liquids are stored well away from heat sources and pilot lights.

OK Needs Work **Show The Way**

- ~ ~ 1. Address can easily be seen from the street at night.

West Des Moines Fire Department

Fire Administration: 222-3420

Sta. #1: 222-3421 Sta. #2: 222-3422 Westside Station: 222-3423