

Checklist for a Fire Safe Home

Keep it cool
with a fire safe home

Making your home fire safe is easy. Avoid things that can cause a fire. If a fire breaks out anyway, a working smoke alarm detects it quickly and gives time to put out the fire or escape. Follow these tips.

- Unsupervised cooking is the worst fire risk.** – The biggest risk of fire in homes is cooking without supervision. You shouldn't leave food on the stove to cook while you're out for a run or taking a nap.
- Don't keep anything flammable on or near the stove.** – The stove is the weakest link of the home in terms of fire safety. Don't place or store anything flammable on or near the stove.
- Don't charge batteries at night.** – The batteries of electrical devices should be charged while you're awake. If the battery gets very hot, bulges or makes a strange noise, disconnect power from the device and allow it to cool. If the device catches fire, try submersing it in water. If this doesn't work, call 112 from a safe location.
- Damaged electrical devices are a health hazard.** – Damaged electrical devices should be repaired or taken to a waste disposal point for electrical equipment. Damaged electrical appliances can start a fire or cause an electric shock.
- Don't leave a fire unattended.** – If you are in the mood for candles or light a fire, don't leave the fire unattended.
- Smoke alarms help save lives.** – It's good to have a working smoke alarm in the bedroom and near the front door. Even if the landlord or housing company is responsible for installing smoke alarms, you should test that they are working regularly.
- Identify two escape routes.** – It's good to be aware of two routes to exit the home. In an apartment building, one of the exit routes can be a balcony, from where you can be evacuated by the rescue services if necessary. When exiting, close any doors behind you to prevent smoke from spreading.
- Keep exit routes clear.** – Don't block the front door with clutter and ensure that the apartment can be exited quickly in an emergency. The same advice applies to the second exit route.
- Keep fire extinguishing equipment on hand and know how to use them.** – Every home should have some kind of fire extinguishing device. The most recommended ones are fire blankets and liquid fire extinguishers. It's a good idea to practice putting out a fire at least in theory or as a dry rehearsal.
- A clean home is a more fire safe home.** – Keep plastic jars and cardboard boxes off the stove, corridors and access routes clear and electrical appliances dust-free. Basic cleanliness prevents both fires and accidents.

Still have questions about
fire safety? See more
information at: [https://
paloturvallisuusviikko.fi/en](https://paloturvallisuusviikko.fi/en)



Fire Safety Week is an annual themed week with the aim to improve fire safety for everyone. The Fire Safety Week is coordinated by the Finnish National Rescue Association. The partners include rescue departments, rescue unions, the Ministry of the Interior, EHYT Association for Substance Abuse Prevention, the network of substance abuse prevention organisations, the Ecclesiastical Board's church social work services, the Finnish Real Estate Federation, Suomen Omakotiliitto, the Finnish Fire Officers' Association, the Central Association of Chimney Sweeps and the Finnish Association for the Welfare of Older Adults. The Fire Safety Week is funded by the Fire Protection Fund.