

Candle Safety Tips

Every year hundreds of fires are started as a result of candle use. These fires are not only emotionally devastating but they also cause millions of dollars in losses each year. Candle fires, however, are preventable in many ways. Below are some simple guidelines to help prevent fires from occurring from open flame candles.

- Never leave a burning candle unattended. Extinguish all candles when leaving the room or going to sleep.
- Keep burning candles away from children and pets.
- Do not place candles near combustible objects such as curtains, clothing, walls, books, holiday decorations, flammable liquids, etc.
- Use candle holders that are sturdy, won't tip over easily, made from a non-combustible material and large enough to safely catch dripping wax.
- Place candles on a protected, heat resistant, level surface.
- Avoid burning candles in drafty areas such as near open windows or doorways.
- Keep wicks trimmed to one-quarter inch and less.
- Avoid walking with lit candles. Allow candles to cool before handling, trimming wicks, or re-lighting.
- Extinguish candles with care, as wax may splatter. A candle quencher or snuffer is recommended.
- Store candles, matches, and lighters up high and out of sight, preferably in a locked cabinet.

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