

# Home Fire Safety Worksheet

## Simple steps that can save your life. Check off completed items:

- Install smoke alarms on every level of your home. Place them on the ceiling outside bedrooms, in stairways and near (but not in) the kitchen.
- Install high quality carbon monoxide (CO) alarms if your home heating or cooking is supplied by natural gas, propane or home heating oil, or if you have a wood-burning fireplace or stove. Place the CO alarms near bedrooms, away from gas appliances.
- Test and vacuum the smoke and CO alarms once a month and replace any batteries every six months when the clocks change. Replace alarms immediately if they fail to test properly; otherwise, follow the manufacturer's recommendations for maximum operating life before replacement is needed (even if the alarms appear to be operating properly). If you can't find the life span recommendation, replace your smoke alarms after 10 years and your CO alarms after 5 years.
- Purchase ABC class fire extinguishers for each floor of your home, plus extras for the kitchen and hobby room/workshop.
- If you work with flammable metals, oils or solvents in your hobby room/workshop, you should consider purchasing a D class extinguisher as well as a proper oily-waste container (these are metal receptacles with lids and ventilated bottoms) for rags that are oil or solvent-soaked. Do not clean oily or solvent soaked rags in your washer or clothes dryer.
- Clean out storage areas. Do not let trash and recycling materials stack up.
- Plan and review escape routes with your family. Practise escaping from each room in the daytime and in the dark. Teach family members to avoid elevators and to stay low to the floor to avoid deadly fumes when escaping from a fire.
- Designate a safe meeting place outside the home where family can assemble, count heads and wait for the fire department.
- Make sure all windows can open and are not nailed or painted shut. Make sure security gratings on windows have a safety feature allowing the window to be easily opened from the inside.
- Consider escape ladders on the upper floors if your home has more than one level.