



Minneapolis Fire Department

WHAT'S YOUR FIRE SAFETY IQ?

1. **What is the leading cause of home fires?**
A. smoking materials
B. arson
C. heating equipment
D. electrical equipment
2. **What is the number one cause of home fire fatalities?**
A. lightning
B. smoking materials
C. cooking equipment
D. electrical equipment
3. **Where do the majority of fire deaths occur?**
A. school
B. home
C. work
D. vehicles
4. **The least fire safe roofing material is...**
A. untreated wood shakes
B. asphalt
C. slate
D. treated wood shakes
5. **When do the largest number of home fires and associated fatalities occur?**
A. spring
B. summer
C. fall
D. winter
6. **Which of the following time segments accounts for the largest number of home fires?**
A. midnight to 4 a.m.
B. 4 a.m. to 10 a.m.
C. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
D. 6 p.m. to midnight
7. **In what room do the largest number of home fires start?**
A. closet
B. utility room
C. kitchen
D. attic
8. **Most fire deaths results from burns.**
A. true
B. false
9. **If a fire occurred while you were sleeping, the smoke would awaken you.**
A. true
B. false
10. **If your clothing catches on fire, you should:**
A. run to the bathtub or shower
B. sit still, yell for help
C. stop, drop, and roll
D. put baking soda on it
11. **If a small grease fire starts when you're cooking, you should NOT:**
A. escape and then call the fire department
B. pour water on it
C. slide a lid over the pan
D. turn off the heat
12. **If you receive a mild burn while cooking, you should:**
A. pack it with ice
B. smear butter on it
C. run cool water over it
D. apply ointment



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ANSWERS

1. C Heating equipment accounts for nearly one-fourth of all home fires in the U.S., with most of these fires caused by portable heaters, other space heaters, and related equipment (such as chimneys). Avoid a fire by properly using and maintaining heating equipment. Never leave the equipment unattended, and keep anything that can burn at least three feet away.
2. B Smoking material fires cause more than 200,000 fires and 1,200 deaths each year in the U.S. More than 90% of these deaths involve careless use or disposal of smoking materials. Use deep ashtrays and douse butts with water before discarding. Check under cushions for smoldering butts. Never smoke when drowsy. Keep matches and lighters out of the reach of young children. 
3. B  About 80% of all U.S. fire deaths occur in the home. Install smoke detectors on every level of your home (particularly outside of the sleeping areas), test them monthly, and change batteries at least once a year. Consider installing an automatic sprinkler system for more protection. You may also want to purchase fire extinguishers and learn how to use them safely and effectively.
4. A Untreated wood shake roofs are a major cause of fire spread, especially in wildland areas. Use a noncombustible or fire-resistant roofing material such as asphalt, slate, tile, or treated wood shakes. If you live in a wooded area, remove debris from gutters, eaves and roof. Store firewood away from structures. Make sure your home's address is clearly visible for responding firefighters.
5. D The months of December, January, and February are dangerous because of the increased use of heating equipment. Holiday fire safety is also an issue during this time. Choose a fresh tree and keep it watered, and don't place it near heat sources or exits. Use only tested and approved electric lights and don't overload outlets. Never leave candles or lighted trees unattended.
6. A Nearly one third of all home fire deaths occur between midnight and 4 a.m. This underscores the importance of smoke detectors, which can give you advance warning of a fire and provide extra time to escape. Develop and practice a home fire escape plan that includes two ways out of every room and an outside meeting place.
7. C The kitchen is the leading room of fire origin, but many fires also start in bedrooms and living rooms. In the kitchen, never leave cooking unattended. Don't store combustible items on or over the stove top, turn pot handles toward the back of the stove, and keep sleeves rolled up to avoid dragging them over the heat.
8. B False. Smoke inhalation accounts for most fire deaths. If you encounter smoke when exiting a fire, use an alternate exit. If you must escape through smoke, crawl low under it – the air will be cooler and cleaner at floor level. Practice your home escape plan at least twice a year. Smoke can disorient you, so the more you practice your escape, the less likely that you will be confused in an actual fire. 
9. B False. Smoke probably will not awaken you and may very likely put you into a deeper sleep. Therefore, it is vital to have working smoke detectors in your home. Make sure your family knows the sound of the smoke detector and the correct way to respond.
10. C "Stop, drop, and roll" is the phrase to remember. Stop where you are, drop to the ground and cover your face with your hands, and roll over and over to extinguish the flames. If someone else's clothing catches on fire and you can't convince them to stop, drop, and roll, knock them to the ground and smother the flames with a rug or heavy coat. Remember – running will only fan the flames.
11. B  Never pour water on a grease fire. Your only safe option may be to escape and call the fire department from a neighbor's home. If you have a small pan fire, you can try to extinguish it by sliding a lid over the pan and turning off the heat. You may also want to learn how to use a fire extinguisher and keep one in your kitchen.
12. C Cool a burn under cool water for at least 10 minutes. A burn that is red, blistered, white, or charred should be cooled with water and emergency medical treatment should be sought immediately.