

Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. But that also means a greater risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.

## HOLIDAY DECORATING

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- >>> Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- >>> Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- **)))** Keep decorations away from windows and doors.

## HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING

- >>> Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- ))) Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- ))) Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- **)))** Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.
- >>> Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.

Your Source for SAFETY Information
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## Before Heading Out or to Bed

**Blow out** lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed. **Turn off** all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.

## FACTS

- (!) Almost half of all home decoration fires are started by candles.
- (1) Half of holiday decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.

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