

Fire

Safety

**First
Alert**
PROFESSIONAL
SECURITY SYSTEMS®

Honeywell

Fire Safety

Contents

According to the National Fire Protection Association, 80% of fire deaths happen in the home. As a leading provider of home security systems, we wanted to do something to reduce this alarming statistic.

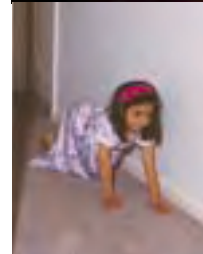
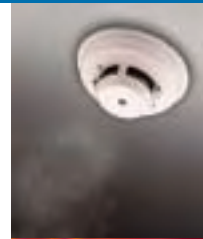
Who are First Alert Professional and Honeywell?

Honeywell manufactures electronic security systems that help protect homes and businesses against burglary and fire. These high quality systems are available only through a select group of qualified companies called First Alert Professional/Honeywell Authorized Security Dealers. These dealers have earned the right to join the network because of their expertise and professionalism in providing security systems.

But these dealers offer more than just security. They truly care about their customers' safety.

On the following pages, we offer you details about fire safety, as well as instructions on how to create a fire escape plan for your family. Please read through the information carefully. By being informed, you'll be better able to react quickly in a fire emergency.

A home security system can protect your home from crime and fire. Please contact your local First Alert Professional or Honeywell Authorized Security Dealer for more information. This dealer shares our commitment to your safety.



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A Fire Detection or Smoke Warning System Could Save Your Life



Contrary to popular belief, the smell of smoke will not awaken you. As a matter of fact, the poisonous gases actually put you into a deeper sleep. Since the majority of fatal fires happen at night, it is essential to have working smoke detectors throughout your home to awaken you in a fire emergency.

For the best protection, make sure you have at least one smoke detector on each level of your home and in or near all sleeping areas. Test the alarms each week and replace the batteries once a year. Detectors that are part of a monitored system can automatically summon the fire department. In addition to early warning systems, technology is available for fire sprinkler systems in homes and other dwellings. This technology should always be used with early warning detection systems.

The first rule of survival— GET OUT IMMEDIATELY!

When fire strikes your home, authorities say you may have as little as one to two minutes to escape. It is imperative that you have a well rehearsed **Escape Plan** which includes all members of the family that are old enough to understand, and provides for those that are not.

Studying and practicing a plan, such as the one recommended in this booklet, could save lives! When dealing with a fire, there is no time to gather personal belongings. The time you take trying could mean the difference between life and death. So always follow the golden rule of survival in the event of a fire, and **GET OUT IMMEDIATELY!**



When Dealing with a Fire, Remember These Important Pointers:



■ **Smoke is Thick and Dark**

Smoke is so thick and dark that you can hardly see the flames. You may feel lost and disoriented in the thick smoke that accompanies fire, even in your own bedroom. You must know how to escape your home in the dark.

■ **The Heat is Intense**

At knee height, the temperature in a fire may be about 90°. At shoulder height, a burning fire can be as hot as 690°. When escaping, always remember to stay as close to the floor as possible in a crawling position.

■ **Prearrange a Meeting Place**

Define a meeting spot that is easy to reach such as a lamppost, a neighbor's driveway, fire hydrant, street sign, etc. The meeting spot should be a safe distance from your home. The meeting place is where all family members know to go immediately after escaping. Once everyone is accounted for, a

responsible family member should go to a neighbor's home or use a cell phone to call the Fire Department. This person should return immediately to the meeting place once help has been called.

■ **Gather Those Who Need Assistance**

Gather children and any disabled persons that are in your home and get out. Do not waste time calling the fire department. You can do this after you are out.

■ **Material Objects Can Be Replaced**

Do not go back into a burning home for material object. Go back only to save a life. If at all possible, pull the door closed behind you upon escaping, to hamper the spread of the fire accelerated by a draft.

■ **Do Not Try to Fight the Fire**

Let the firefighters do their job. Just get out of the way of danger.

A General Outline for Your Emergency **Escape Plan**



BE SURE TO TEST YOUR FIRE AND SMOKE WARNING SYSTEM WEEKLY, AND KEEP REPLACEMENT BATTERIES ON HAND.

Unfortunately, escaping a fire is rarely easy. Because of the unpredictable nature of fire, and the manner in which it spreads, it is difficult to know where and when it might strike. For this reason, it is important to establish certain procedures in advance to facilitate a successful escape.

If you practice these procedures at least once a month by actually rehearsing the moves with your family, in the night time as well as the day, you will greatly increase the chances of a safe escape. Make sure that everyone in the family knows what the alarm signal means and participates in these trial runs, including the young, the aged, and the babysitter. It is particularly important to stress the location of the meeting place outside the home. All too often, a family member risks his or her life going back into a burning home to rescue a child that has been out and safe at a neighbor's house.

1. Don't Jump Up Out of Bed

If you awaken and sense a fire, do not jump up out of bed. Remember, the heat gets more intense the farther from the floor you are. So, instead, roll out of bed onto the floor.

2. Crawl to the Door

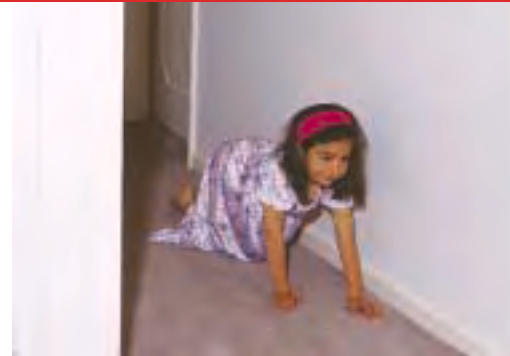
After you roll out of bed onto the floor, crawl over to the door, which you should always keep closed while you are asleep. (The door acts as an insulator from the fire, should it be coming from the hall outside the door). Touch the door, both low and higher up to see if it is hot. If it is, **DO NOT OPEN IT!** Instead, plan to use an alternate route.

3. Try the Door

If it is not hot to the touch, open the door about one to two inches only, slowly bracing it firmly, as there may be pressure from gases on the other side. Brace your foot against the door so that pressure does not force it to open quickly. If the air from behind it is warm, do not use the hallways. Pull the door shut and use an alternate escape route.

4. Instruct Your Children

Shout to your children to stay in their rooms with their doors closed. Remind them to open a window no more than three inches from the bottom to avoid drafts which tend to fan the flames, (an important note to include in your pre-disaster rehearsal instructions). They should crouch at this window and breathe the fresh air that comes in.



5. How to Crawl to Safety

If you are able to crawl to safety via the hallways, be sure to keep your head about one to two feet off the floor. This is vital, as the intense heat rises to a point above this height and the noxious gases produced by burning materials tend to amass below this level. Cover your nose and mouth with a cloth (preferably wet). Take short, shallow breaths.

6. Outside Ladders Help In Rescue

Have a sturdy ladder that can reach all second level windows readily available outside your house. This will aid you in rescuing others that may be trapped inside. Be sure to keep the ladder in a place that is secure from burglars.



7. Escape Ladders

Keep an escape ladder secured at the window of each bedroom above the first level, and instruct family members in advance on how to use them in the event that the hallways are not safe. Practice using the escape ladder from a first floor window to make sure you can do it quickly.

8. Never Jump Out of a Window In a Panic

A hasty jump may cause an injury that renders you helpless to vacate the area or help rescue others. Try to remain calm. If you must escape through a window without the aid of a ladder, hang from the sill by your hands first to lessen the drop. Drape bedclothes over the sill if you had to break the glass to exit to avoid cutting yourself on the way out.



9. Plan Ahead!!!

We cannot overstress the importance of planning ahead! Planning in advance can save your family's lives. Work out primary and alternate routes of escape for each member of your family. Review these plans and the pointers in this booklet carefully and regularly with everyone. Be explicit. Quiz your children on all of these points to be sure they understand the plan.

IMPORTANT

COMPLETE AND POST THIS FORM IN A PROMINENT PLACE NOW!

Meeting Place: _____

Shortest Emergency Escape Routes **1 - Through House**
2 - Through Window When Exit 1 is Blocked

_____ 's Bedroom 1. _____

2. _____

_____ 's Bedroom 1. _____

2. _____

_____ 's Bedroom 1. _____

2. _____

_____ Room 1. _____

2. _____

_____ Room 1. _____

2. _____

_____ Room 1. _____

2. _____

_____ Kitchen 1. _____

2. _____

INSTRUCTIONS:

Hopefully, you will never need to use this plan, but in the event of a fire, you will realize just how valuable pre-planned escape and fire drills are in saving the lives of the ones you love. This is particularly important in regard to upstairs bedrooms or any room without a direct ground-floor window. Keep this displayed in a prominent place so that your entire family can review it and memorize it.

Special Note for Apartment Dwellers



If you live in an apartment, you should know the locations of the stairway and fire exits outside of your apartment building. Never use the elevator during a fire. It could break down or bring you right to the source of the fire. Always use the stairs in a fire emergency.

Provided as a Public Service
Compiled From Information From:

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
www.fema.gov

U.S. Fire Administration (USFA)
www.usfa.fema.gov

American Red Cross
www.redcross.org

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FA/340

5/05