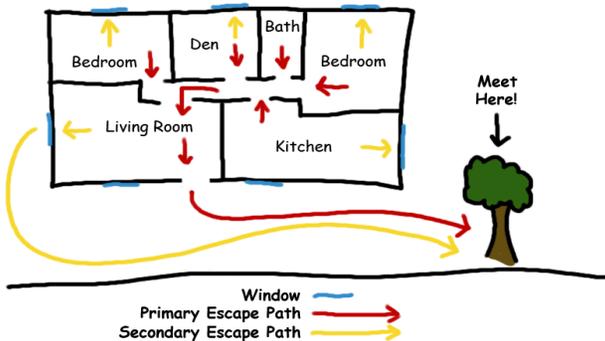


Fire Escape Plan:

- STEP 1:**
 Get you family together and draw a floor plan of your home, marking all windows, doors, and smoke alarms.
- STEP 2:**
 Show two ways out of each room in case your main escape route is blocked. Make sure windows can be opened easily.
- STEP 3:**
 Agree on an outside meeting place where everyone will meet to wait for the fire department.
- STEP 4:**
 Practice your plan at least twice a year.
- STEP 5:**
 If your smoke alarm, or carbon monoxide alarm sounds, get out of the house fast and **DO NOT GO BACK** inside for any reason!



SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES

MAKE SURE YOUR SMOKE ALARMS PERFORM AS INTENDED
 – WHEN YOU NEED THEM THE MOST

- **TEST** smoke alarms monthly
- Change the **BATTERIES** every year
- Beware of **CHIRPING** smoke alarms – it's time to replace the batteries
- Replace older smoke alarms – **REPLACE** alarms that are more than 10 years old
- Know the **SOUND** of the smoke alarm and what to do if the alarm goes off



REMEMBER, ONLY WORKING SMOKE ALARMS CAN SAVE YOUR LIFE!



Duncanville Fire Prevention
 1530 S. Main St.
 Duncanville, TX 75137
 (972) 780-4920
www.duncanville.com

Duncanville Fire Department

Smoke Alarms



Save Lives

Smoke Alarms:

Why do I need smoke alarms?

Smoke alarms are a key part of a home fire escape plan. When there is a fire, smoke spreads fast, allowing you approximately two minutes to get out of your home. Working smoke alarms give you early warning so you can get out quickly. Roughly 3 out of 5 fire deaths happen in homes with no smoke alarms or the smoke alarms were not working.

Smoke alarms are a fundamental component to any household safety plan. They may provide critical time to find your way to safety in the event of a fire.

Where should I install smoke alarms?

- Smoke alarms should be installed on every level of the home, inside each bedroom and in the main corridor outside each sleeping area, and in the basement.
- Smoke alarms should be installed on the ceiling or high on a wall. Keep smoke alarms away from the kitchen to reduce false alarms. They should be at least 10 feet from the stove.
- Keep smoke alarms away from drafts created by fans or air ducts. The moving air can blow smoke away from the sensor.

What type of smoke alarms should I install in my home?

There are two basic types of smoke alarms, ionization and photoelectric. These alarms are differentiated by the smoke sensing technology they are constructed with, and differ by the way they react to a fire occurrence.

- Ionization smoke alarms are generally more sensitive at sensing small particles, which tend to be produced in greater amounts by hot, flaming fires, that are consuming combustible materials rapidly and may spread quickly. Examples of the sources of these fires include paper burning in a trash can/waste basket, or a grease fire.
- Photoelectric alarms are more sensitive at sensing large smoke particles, which tend to be produced in greater amounts by smoldering fires. These types of fires could smolder for hours before bursting into flame. An example of the sources of these fires include cigarettes burning on couches or bedding.

Industry experts recommend installing interconnected smoke alarms on every level of your home as part of a comprehensive fire safety program. Interconnected alarms in new construction is a requirement of the Nation Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 101 Life Safety Code, as this feature enables all alarms to sound when any individual alarm detects smoke to help provide an early notification.

What you need to know:

- A closed door may slow the spread of smoke, heat and fire. Its often the best way to stall a fire; by closing the door, you may save yourself seconds to use an alternate escape route.
- Test your alarms at least once a month. Since most fatalities occur between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. when most people are sleeping, the only thing standing between a safe escape and lethal fire may be the sound of a smoke alarm.
- When a smoke alarms sounds, get outside and stay outside; **NEVER** attempt to go back into the home. The heat from fire is so intense that it can cause your body to stop functioning altogether. Once breath can cause sever lung damage.
- Batteries should be changed twice a year; “Change your batteries when you change your clocks” is the recommended interval.
- Replace all smoke alarms in your home every 10 years.
- Creating a Fire Escape Plan for your family is critical. A home fire can double in size in 30 seconds or less. You must know what to do in order to help your family to get out safely.