HOME ESCAPE PLAN



Every second counts during a fire. Create and practice a home escape plan so you and your family can get out quickly if the smoke alarm sounds.



Fires can spread quickly once the smoke alarm sounds, leaving only a minute or two to escape.



Orange County Fire Authority

(714) 573-6200 ocfa.org



Plan Ahead

- Make a home escape plan showing two ways out of every room. Discuss the plan with everyone in your home.
- Choose an outside meeting place in front of and a safe distance from your home.
- Practice your home escape plan at least twice a year. During your drills, practice escaping from different exits and teach children to escape on their own.
- Make sure someone is assigned to assist with small children, older adults, or family members with disabilities.
- Slow the spread of fire in your home by closing doors while you sleep.
- Test your smoke alarms once a month with your children so they recognize the sound.

Respond Safely if a Fire Occurs

- Smoke and heat rise, so crawl low as you follow your home escape plan.
- Test doors before opening. Use the back of your hand to feel the door for heat, starting at the bottom and working your way up. If the door feels warm, don't open it. Use your secondary exit to escape.
- Close doors as you evacuate to slow the spread of smoke and fire.
- Once you're out, stay out. Go immediately to your outside meeting place and NEVER go back inside for any reason.
- Call 9-1-1 once you are safely outside of your home.

If Trapped by Fire

- Close the door between you and the fire.
- Use towels, blankets, or clothing to seal door cracks and help prevent smoke from entering the room.
- Call 9-1-1 and tell the dispatcher where you are in the home.
- Signal for help from a window when firefighters arrive.