



CAMPUS FIRE FACTS

Get Out and Stay Out

Escape plans

- **Never ignore a fire alarm:** Because every second counts in a fire situation, respond to every alarm as if it were a real fire. If you hear an alarm, leave immediately and close doors behind you as you go, to delay any potential fire spread. Do not lock doors.
- **Have an escape plan:** Building evacuations are delayed due to lack of preparation and planning. Read the posted plan in your dorm room or take a few minutes to devise one for you and your roommates.
- **Know two exits from your room:** You always need to assume that your first most natural escape route might be blocked.
- **Memorize the number of doors to the nearest exit:** You also need to assume that you may not be able to see. Know how many doors or landmarks are between you and escape, just in case.
- **Never disable a smoke alarm by removing the battery:** Vandalized smoke alarms inhibit early detection and endanger everyone in a dormitory. Never borrow a battery from any smoke alarm. A smoke alarm doubles your chance of survival should a fire occur. To make sure your smoke alarm will operate correctly, replace the

battery and test as soon as you move in.

- **Never hang anything from sprinkler systems:** Hanging objects can prevent sprinklers from working properly.
- **Keep a fire extinguisher handy:** Know where the closest fire extinguisher is and how to use it. When there's a fire, there is no time to find the instruction booklet or study instructions printed on the extinguisher. Know how the extinguisher works before you need to use it.
- **Protect yourself and your roommates before property and valuables:** Property and valuable can be replaced, lives cannot. Personal safety is the most important factor when deciding whether to fight a small fire. Before you begin fighting a fire be sure that everyone has left the building, the fire department has been called, and the fire is contained to a small area, such as in a wastebasket, and it is not spreading. Also make sure your back is to an unobstructed exit to which the fire will not spread.

Resources:

Two mp3 clips of John Drenenberg, Director of Consumer Affairs at UL, discussing home escape plans. <http://www.ul.com/newsroom/escape/audio.html>

Draw your Dorm Escape Plan here: <http://www.nfpa.org/assets/files/PDF/FPWgrid03.pdf>

More Campus-Related Fire-Facts:

- Safe Housing: <http://www.campusfiresafety.org/Resources/FireFacts/safehousing.pdf>
- Carbon Monoxide: <http://www.campusfiresafety.org/Resources/FireFacts/carbonmonoxide.pdf>
- Air-Conditioning Units: <http://www.campusfiresafety.org/Resources/FireFacts/keepcoolsafely.pdf>

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