



BUSY MOM'S Guide to Home Fire Safety

Bedroom Fires

MATTRESSES: The Most *Flammable* Item In Your Bedroom

- Most mattress fires are started by children under five playing with lighters and matches. Mattress fires are the second leading cause of fire deaths among pre-schoolers.
- A mattress fire can engulf an entire room in flames in under three minutes, making safe exit impossible.
- At home, children usually play with matches and lighters in bedrooms, closets and under beds. These are “secret” places where there are many things that can catch fire easily.
- A flame resistant mattress pad and box spring cover can help give you a level of protection similar to the new CPSC safety standard.

Children Need Your Help to Escape from a Home Fire!
Children sleep very deeply and may not wake to the sound of a smoke alarm. Make sure your child knows the sound of a smoke alarm. Hold a drill at night while your children are sleeping to find out who can hear it. Then plan how you will help your child escape if a fire starts while your family is sleeping.

QUICK STATS

- Bedrooms are the second most common location where home fires start, and nearly 1,000 lives each year are lost to fires that begin in the bedroom.
- The three main causes of bedroom fires are:
 1. Poor use of electrical devices, such as frayed extension cords, overloaded outlets and portable space heaters too close to bedding.
 2. Children playing with matches and lighters.
 3. Careless smoking among adults.



Mattress Fire Statistics & Facts

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Here are five things you can do to make your home immediately safer.

1. Keep lit candles away from bedding, curtains, papers and anything that can burn easily.
2. Remove any electrical cords that are run under beds or trapped against a wall where heat can build up. Check to make sure the cords are not frayed.
3. Keep space heaters three feet away from bedding, clothes and other flammable items.
4. Tell your children not to play with matches. Tell them if they find matches, bring them to an adult immediately. Tell them to get out of the house immediately if a fire starts inside.
5. Place a smoke alarm on every level of your home and inside every bedroom.

FOR MORE RESOURCES:

Visit www.firedefendersystem.com for more home fire-safety information and links.