



# essential FIRE SAFETY

## IN CASE OF FIRE

If your clothes are on fire:  
**STOP, DROP AND ROLL.**

Feel the temperature of the door from the inside with the **back of your hand.**

**If the door is cool, open slowly** and ensure fire and/or smoke is not blocking your escape route and close it behind you.

**If the door is hot, do not open.** Escape through a window. If you cannot escape, hang a white or light-colored sheet out the window, alerting fire fighters to your presence.

**Keep low to the ground** – smoke and heat rise. Call emergency services once you're safe.

## WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

### **Do you have a smoke detector?**

You should have one in your bedroom. A smoke detector should be installed in every room that will be occupied except the kitchen or above a fireplace where there will be false alarms.

### **Do not live above the 7th floor.**

The fire service cannot rescue you with a ladder truck, and helicopter rescues are not possible for most buildings.

### **Plan two ways out of every room.**

Think about how you will escape the room in case of fire – do you have a ladder/a rope and window access?

### **Watch your smoke.**

Cigarettes are a leading cause of fire deaths – put your ashes out and don't smoke in bed!

*65% of reported home fire deaths occur in homes with no smoke alarms or non-working smoke alarms.*

*Every year, thousands of people die in fires because they are not properly equipped and prepared.*



## FIRE SAFETY *in* SOUTH AFRICA

*Fire safety regulations vary drastically across the world; be prepared to take initiative to ensure your safety*

EMERGENCY NUMBER: 10111  
FROM CELL PHONES: 112

*In 2007 alone, there were 40,000 fires, with about 10,000 of them occurring in private homes!*

*Although non-residential buildings must meet fire safety standards, houses and apartments rarely do. It is **your responsibility** to make your home fire safe!*

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[www.firesafetyfoundation.org](http://www.firesafetyfoundation.org)