

# HOME ESCAPE PLAN

You must discuss and practice a home escape plan with your family so everyone will know what to do in case of a fire. Your home escape plan must include these three items:

1. The current locations of smoke alarms in your home
2. Two exits from each room
3. An outside meeting place

## EXITS

In most cases, the door will be the first exit and the window will be the second exit. Mark the locations of the smoke alarms in your home. Make sure you have at least one outside each bedroom area.

**If a smoke alarm wakes you up, do not sit up in the bed. Roll out of the bed, staying as low to the floor as possible.** Crawl in one direction until you find the wall. Place your hand on the wall using it as a guide, and follow it until you come to the door. Using the back of your hand, feel the door as high as you can without standing and then feel the doorknob. If the door or doorknob is hot, leave the door closed and go to the second exit.

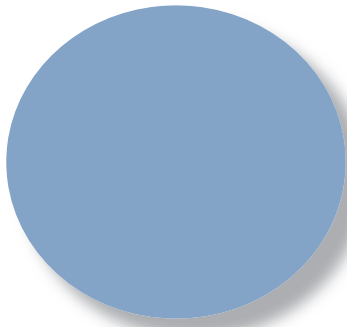
If the door is not hot, open it slowly while checking for smoke and heat. If you feel heat, or it's difficult to see or breathe, close the door quickly. **You cannot use this exit.**

You will have to use your second exit if the first exit is blocked by smoke, flame, or heat. If your second exit is up high, you may need an escape ladder or a knotted rope to reach the ground.

## SIGNALS

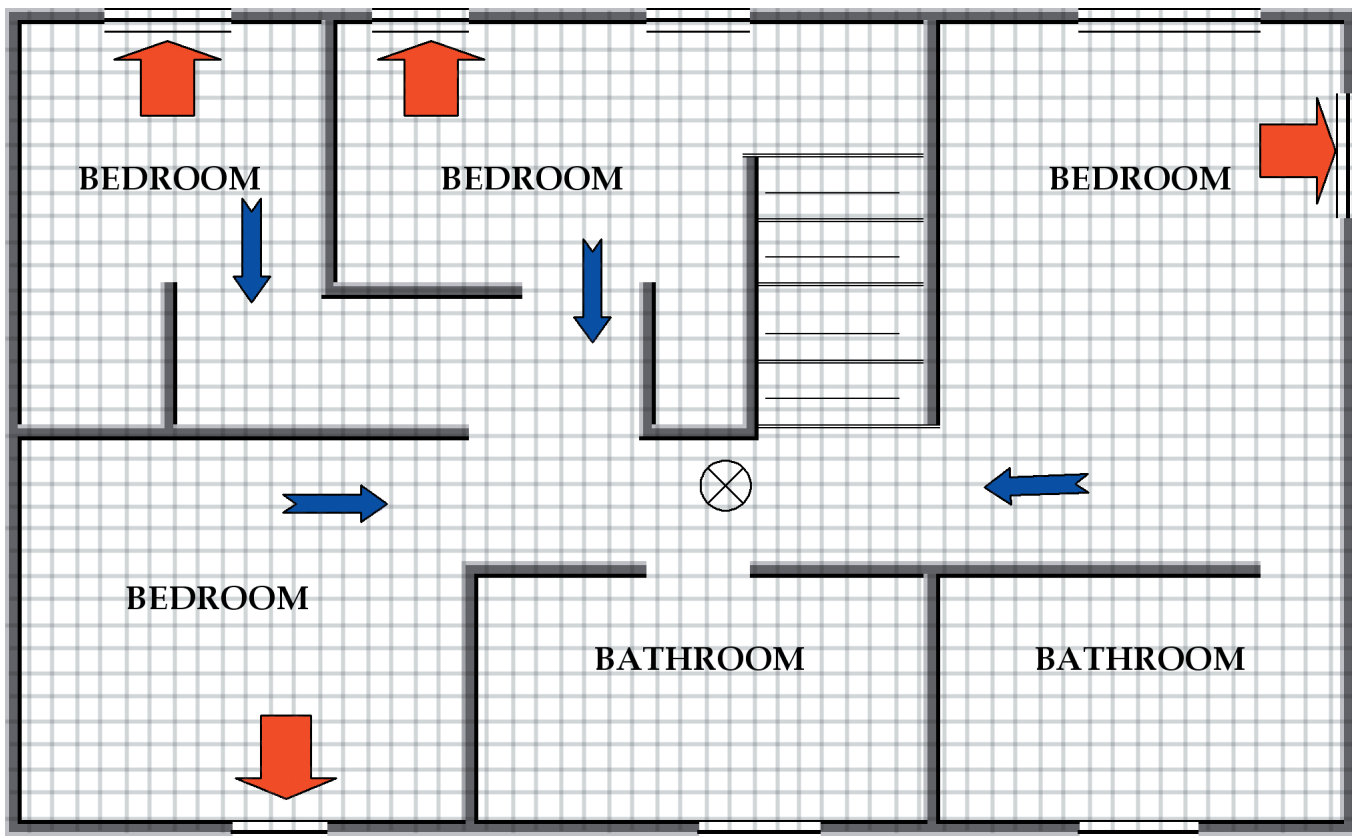
When your smoke alarm goes off, you must alert the family while getting out and staying out. Use a LOUD signal/phrase everyone agrees on.


*If you do not have a smoke alarm in your home, notify your Fire Safety Instructor.*




# HOME ESCAPE PLAN

- Using the sample below as your guide, draw a simple diagram of your home on the next page
- Plan two ways to get out of each room
- Agree on an outside meeting place
- Discuss the plan with your family
- Practice an escape at night -- when most deadly fires occur
- Practice E.D.I.T.H. (Exit Drills In The Home)

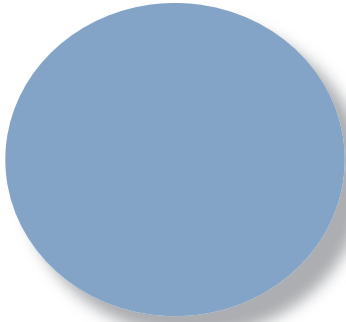


FIRST EXIT (doors) 

SECOND EXIT (usually windows) 

SMOKE ALARM 





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## MEETING PLACE

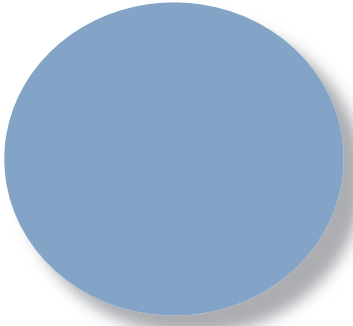
Make sure your family's meeting place is a safe distance from your home and mark it on the escape plan.

**FACT:** People panic easily in emergencies if they are unprepared. Most severe home fires occur between the hours of 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. -- when most people are asleep.

Practice having all members of your household report immediately to your outside meeting place during fire drills.

Once you are outside, go to the meeting place. Memorize 911 or your local fire department emergency phone number, and call from a neighbor's phone or cell phone.





# HOME ESCAPE PLAN

A large rectangular area filled with a fine grid of small squares, intended for drawing a home escape plan. The grid is composed of approximately 30 columns and 40 rows of squares.