KITCHEN FIRES



United States fire departments responded to an estimated average of 172,100 home structure fires per year started by cooking activities or an average of 471 home cooking fires per day. These fires caused an average of 530 civilian deaths, 5,270 reported civilian fire injuries, and \$1.1 billion in direct property damage per year. Home fires caused by cooking peaked at Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Common Causes of Kitchen Fires:

- Leaving cooking food unattended
- Too high temperature in the fryer
- · Old oils
- Flammable items near stovetop
- Items in microwave which are NOT Microwave Safe
- Fat deposits in the vent hood



- Do not cook if you are distracted or tired or if you have consumed alcohol
- Keep children and pets 3 feet away from stove while in use
- Keep flammable items away from stovetop
- Do not leave cooking food unattended
- Heat the oil slowly to the temperature you need for frying or sautéing. If you see wisps of smoke, that's a warning sign that the oil's too hot. Immediately turn off the burner and/or carefully remove the pan from the burner.
- Always cook with a lid beside the pan. If the pan catches on fire, slide the lid over the pan and turn off the burner. Do not remove the cover because the fire could start again. Let the pan cool for a long time.
- Keep your stove and oven clean. Built up food splatter or grease can later ignite when the stove or oven is turned on for cooking.
- Use the right outlet for the right appliance. For larger appliances, such as ovens and refrigerators, be sure to only use properly grounded outlets with circuits that match the rating plate on the appliance.







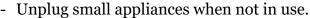


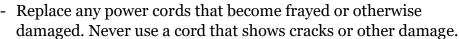


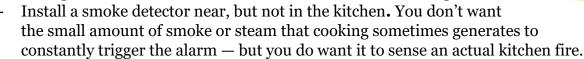


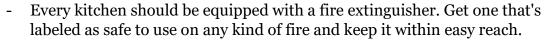


If you have older 2-prong outlets in other locations of your kitchen, have a qualified electrician replace it with a properly grounded 3-prong outlet. Do not use an adapter.





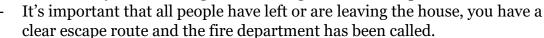






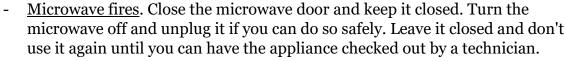
Fighting a Kitchen Fire:

Call 911, try the following while waiting on the Fire Department.





Oven fires. Immediately close the oven door and turn it off. If the fire doesn't go out right away, call the fire department. Have the oven inspected and repaired before you use it again.



Electrical fires. Use a fire extinguisher; never douse it with water. Always call the fire department for an electrical fire, even if you have already put it out with the fire extinguisher.

Never use water or flour on a kitchen fire





