



Risk Management Foundation

Education • Prevention • Preservation

FIRE SAFETY CHECKLIST

No matter where you live—whether it's in a chapter house, an apartment or a dormitory—take a look around. How safe is your living environment? Are you putting yourself at risk for a fire? Are you preventing your brothers and your friends from quickly and safely evacuating your home in the event of a fire?

Use this checklist to assess the dangers that may already exist in your home-away-from-home that might put you at risk for an on-site fire. How many of the following fire hazards do you find in your college home?

Check them off as you go:

ENTRANCES/EXITS

- Obstructed exit doors
- No crash bars
- Poor/no lighting
- Broken steps
- Unlit exit signs
- Broken door locks

STAIRS

- Uneven/loose/broken steps
- Low ceiling/overhang
- No self-closing door
- Worn/loose/missing step tread
- Broken/loose/missing hand rails
- Inadequate lighting

SLEEPING ROOMS

- Lack of smoke alarms and detectors
- Inoperative smoke alarms and detectors
- Obstructed exit doors
- Blocked heating panels/registers/vents
- No self-closing door
- Walking/tripping hazards
- Overloaded outlets (especially around electronic equipment)
- Presence of combustibles (e.g. candles, incense)
- Presence of hot plates
- Missing/loose door knobs
- Unstable/hazardous bunk beds

KITCHEN

- No GFCI (ground fault circuit interrupter) outlets
- Unsanitary conditions
- Missing/greasy exhaust hood
- Greasy/slippery floor
- Overloaded outlets
- Overdue/expired inspection certificate
- Unsecured shelving
- Inadequate wiring/electrical cords
- Bare/unprotected bulb in exhaust hood
- Missing/discharged/expired fire extinguishers
- Ungrounded kitchen appliances

HALLWAYS/CORRIDORS

- Inoperable/missing fire alarms
- Missing/discharged/expired fire extinguishers
- Missing/inoperable smoke detectors/alarms (battery or hard-wired)
- No posted evacuation map/emergency numbers/emergency procedures
- Unmarked/unlit exits
- No emergency lighting fixtures
- Damaged, blocked and/or propped-open fire doors
- Obstructed fire alarms
- Uneven/loose floorboards/tiles
- Unsanitary conditions

BATHROOMS

- No GFCI (ground fault circuit interrupter) outlets
- Damaged fixtures
- Flooded floor drains
- Poor ventilation
- No Mats or slip prevention strips

BOILER ROOM

- Cluttered storage
- Damaged pipe insulation
- Presence of combustibles/flammables
- Poor ventilation
- Overdue/expired boiler inspection
- No self-closing door
- No fire walls/doors

UTILITY ROOM

- Blocked electrical circuit panel
- Electrical hazards/overloaded outlets
- Ungrounded appliances
- Cluttered storage
- Missing circuit panel cover
- Unsecured shelves
- Defective/broken ladder
- Unlabeled circuit breakers
- Open flammable liquids

EXTERIOR

- Loose siding/shingles
- Ungrounded outlets
- Overgrown vegetation
- Uncontrolled roof access
- Broken window glass
- Inoperable windows
- Damaged fire escapes
- Uneven sidewalks/driveway
- Poor exterior lighting

If you checked off any item on this list, your apartment, dorm or chapter house needs to improve its fire safety by decreasing the number of hazards on site. Discuss this checklist with your House Corporation representatives.