



Pets Safety

Pet Fire & Carbon Monoxide Safety



Pets give us comfort, friendship, and unconditional love. Our connection to them can be among the strongest relationships in our lives. But pets can cause fires. There are safety measures you can implement to help prevent a pet from starting a fire in the first place. Below are steps you can take to help protect your family and your pets.

Preparation - Start pet fire safety by planning



- Make An Escape Plan, every family should have one. Make sure pets are included in your family's escape plan.
- Build an emergency kit to include for each pet in your household. Packed with their food, medication and a leash – it can be a literal lifesaver. Keep the kit or crate near the door. Ensure each kit is a size and weight that can be quickly and easily loaded into a vehicle when packing to evacuate.

- If you crate pets when you're away, keep the crate near a door so it's easy for firefighters to find pets quickly after entering your home.

- Assign Family Members to Account For Each Pet. Know your pet's favorite hiding spots, so that when the alarms sound, you can grab them and go.



- Train Your Dogs to Correctly Respond to Alarms, As many pet parents know first-hand, pets may become unsettled or anxious once a smoke alarm sounds, hiding rather than exiting. Dogs can be trained to respond appropriately to smoke or carbon monoxide alarms going off, and either come to find you when it happens or escape outside themselves.



- Make sure emergency responders know you have pets. A pet alert sign near each entrance to your home is another important pet fire safety step. It tells emergency responders that one or more pets are in your home and might need help. If the smoke alarm sounds, get out and stay out. Never go back inside for pets in a fire. Tell firefighters if your pet is trapped. Have leashes or carriers readily available.



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More pet fire safety planning tips

- A fire is a scary situation and pets may run off. Another important pet fire safety step is making sure your pets are microchipped before an emergency happens, and that the information on the chip registry is up to date. Microchipped pets are much more likely to be returned to their owners.
- After a fire, watch your pet closely. If your pet is acting lethargic or having trouble breathing, it could be a sign of smoke inhalation. See your veterinarian as soon as possible for any needed follow-up care.



Pet-Proofing Against Fire



- Pets are curious. If you like candles, get the flameless kind. They offer the ambiance of their fiery counterparts, with far fewer hazards. Cat's tails are notorious for knocking over the real ones. Even if your dog knocks it over or your cat's tail brushes through the "flame," they'll be safe. Never leave pets unattended around an open flame such as a candle or fireplace.

- Keep young or untrained pets away from potential hazards by crating them or securing them behind baby gates.
- Cooking equipment is a major cause of pet-originated fires. They may bump into, turn on, or knock over cooking equipment. Keep pets away from stoves & countertops. Keep leftovers & flammable items off the stovetop, so pets aren't tempted to jump up.



- Keep pets away from space heaters or lamps. Keep pets away from a chimney's outside vents. Have a "pet-free zone" of at least 3 feet (1 meter) away from the fireplace. Glass doors and screens can stay dangerously hot for several hours after the fire goes out.
- Some pets are chewers. Watch pets to make sure they don't chew through electrical cords. Have any damaged cords checked by a professional.



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