



# Candle Safety



Candles may be pretty to look at but they are a cause of home fires — and home fire deaths. Remember, a candle is an open flame, which means that it can easily ignite anything that can burn.

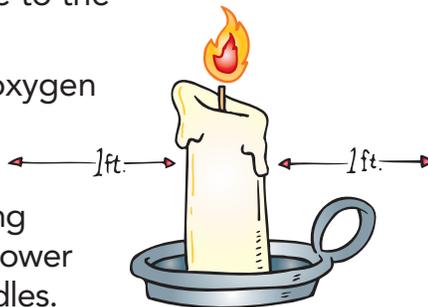
## "CANDLE WITH CARE"

- Blow out all candles when you leave the room or go to bed. Avoid the use of candles in the bedroom and other areas where people may fall asleep.
- Keep candles at least 1 foot (30 centimetres) away from anything that can burn.

Think about using flameless candles in your home. They look and smell like real candles.

## IF YOU DO BURN CANDLES, make sure that you...

- Use candle holders that are sturdy, and won't tip over easily.
- Put candle holders on a sturdy, uncluttered surface.
- Light candles carefully. Keep your hair and any loose clothing away from the flame.
- Don't burn a candle all the way down — put it out before it gets too close to the holder or container.
- Never use a candle if oxygen is used in the home.
- Have flashlights and battery-powered lighting ready to use during a power outage. Never use candles.



## Candles and Kids

Never leave a child alone in a room with a burning candle. Keep matches and lighters up high and out of children's reach, in a locked cabinet.



## FACTS

- ! **December** is the peak month for home candle fires.
- ! More than **one-third** of home candle fires started in the bedroom.
- ! **Three of every five** candle fires start when things that can burn are too close to the candle.

Call 311 for a FREE Home Safety Check



SCOTT E. GOLDSTEIN  
Montgomery County Fire Chief  
[www.mcfrs.org/mcsafe](http://www.mcfrs.org/mcsafe)