

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 or no lighting
- Broken steps
- Unlit exit signs
- Broken door locks

Stairs

- Uneven, loose, or broken steps
- Low ceiling or overhang
- No self-closing door
- Worn, loose, or missing step tread
- Broken, loose, or 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, or vents
- No self-closing door
- Walking or tripping hazards

- Overloaded outlets (especially around electronic equipment)
- Presence of combustibles (candles, incense)
- Presence of hot plates
- Missing or loose door knobs
- Unstable or hazardous bunk beds

Kitchen

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

Hallways / Corridors

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

Bathrooms

- No GFCI outlets

- Damaged fixtures
- Flooded floor drains
- Poor ventilation
- No mats or slip-prevention strips

Boiler Room

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

Utility Room

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

Exterior

- Loose siding or shingles
- Ungrounded outlets
- Overgrown vegetation
- Uncontrolled roof access
- Broken window glass
- Inoperable windows
- Damaged fire escapes

- Uneven sidewalks or 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.

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