

DO YOUR PART  
**BE SAFETY!  
SMART!**



# 31 DAYS OF SAFETY

**SAFETY NEVER TAKES A HOLIDAY.**

Make these 31 Holiday Safety Tips part of your list and don't forget to check it twice.

1

## LOOK FOR THE MARK AND PREVENT A SPARK

Use light string and other electrical decorations that bear the Underwriters Laboratory (UL) label.

2

When spraying artificial snow on windows or other surfaces, be sure to **follow directions carefully**. These sprays can irritate your lungs if you inhale them.

3

## INSPECT YOUR GADGETS

Carefully inspect decorations before use. Cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, and loose connections may pose fire or shock hazards to you or your family.

4

If you use an artificial tree, choose one that is tested and labeled as **fire resistant**. Artificial trees with built-in electrical systems should have the Underwriters Laboratory (UL) label.

5

Extension cords should be placed against the wall to **avoid tripping hazards**.

6

When putting up holiday decorations, always **use the proper step stool or ladder to reach high places**. Don't stand on chairs, desks or other furniture.

7

Wrap gifts in **recycled or reused** wrapping paper or newspapers. Also remember to **save or recycle used** wrapping paper.

8

**Wear gloves while decorating** with spun glass "angel hair." It can irritate your eyes and skin. A common substitute is non-flammable cotton.

9

Reuse the fronts of old holiday cards as gift tags and **reduce waste**.

10

## THE LIGHTING KEY IS CONNECT ONLY THREE

Do not connect more than three midget light string sets together. Light strings with larger, screw-in bulbs should have no more than 50 bulbs connected.

11

## INSIDE, OUTSIDE, WHATEVER THE DÉCOR LOOK FOR®

Use only lights that have been tested for safety by a nationally recognized testing laboratory, such as UL. Lights for both indoor and outdoor usage must meet strict requirements that testing laboratories are able to verify. On most decorative lights available in stores, UL's red holographic label signifies that the product meets safety requirements for indoor and outdoor usage. UL's holographic label, with the green UL Mark, signifies it meets requirements for only indoor usage.

12

## PRACTICE MAKES THE PERFECT HOLIDAY

Use the holiday season as an opportunity to practice a fire escape plan with your loved ones. Every family member should know at least two ways to exit each room in the home.

13

**Prepare your car for the winter** by checking items such as the brakes, spark plugs, battery, and tires. Check your owner's manual for the recommended interval for a tune-up.

14

Be prepared for emergency situations on the road by having a winter "survival kit" in the vehicle including items such as, a working flashlight, extra batteries, reflective triangles, compass, first aid kit, exterior windshield cleaner, ice scraper, snow brush, wooden stick matches in a waterproof container, and non-perishable, high energy foods like unsalted canned nuts, dried fruits, and hard candy.

15

## AT LEAST ONE SO HOLIDAY'S STAY FUN

Make sure at least one UL Listed smoke alarm and carbon monoxide alarm are installed on each level of your home near sleeping areas. Also, keep a fire extinguisher near the kitchen. Maintain these devices in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.

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CREATE YOUR HOLIDAY SAFETY LIST & CHECK IT TWICE AT [ULSAFETYSMART.COM](http://ULSAFETYSMART.COM)

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**TURN OFF LIGHTS IN YOUR HOUSE WHEN NO CREATURES ARE STIRRING – NOT EVEN A MOUSE.**

Be sure to turn off any electrical lights, decorations and space heaters before leaving home or going to bed.

17

When you're not enjoying a fire in your fireplace, close the flue and block the hearth to **prevent heat loss**.

18

**CANDLE BRIGHT, CANDLE IN SIGHT**

Keep burning candles within sight. Extinguish all candles before you go to bed, leave the room or leave the house.

19

**WARM AND SNUG LIKE “SAFE” BUGS IN A RUG**

Keep flammable materials in your home like bedding, wallpaper and curtains at least three feet from space heaters and other heat sources.

20

**MEASURE THREE FROM THE HOLIDAY TREE**

Position your tree at least three feet away from fireplaces, radiators and other heat sources. Make sure your tree isn't blocking a doorway or exit route.

21

**CHESTNUTS ROASTING ON A ... WOOD-BURNING STOVE**

If your family uses a wood-burning stove, be sure it bears the UL Mark

22

**ON TABLE OR MANTEL, WATCH THAT CANDLE**

Keep candles on a stable, heat-resistant surface where kids and pets cannot reach them or knock them over. Lighted candles should be placed away from items that can catch fire and burn easily, such as trees, other evergreens, decorations, curtains and furniture.

23

**Donate** the older toys that you no longer use to charities.

24

Small children may think that holiday plants look good enough to eat, but many plants may be poisonous or can cause severe stomach problems. **Plants to watch out for include: mistletoe, holly berries, Jerusalem cherry and amaryllis. Keep all of these plants out of children's reach.**

25

Avoid cleaning kitchen surfaces with wet dishcloths or sponges. They easily harbor bacteria and promote bacteria growth. **Use clean paper towels instead.**

26

When reheating leftovers, **bring the temperature up to at least 165°F to eliminate any bacterial growth.**

27

Bake cookies or other goodies for your friends and love ones and **package them in reusable and/or recyclable containers** as gifts.

28

**Practice food safety** - with all the food being prepared ahead of time to take to a holiday party don't forget basic food safety rules. Teach kids to wash their hands before and after eating and touching foods. Store and cook foods following food safety guidelines to **avoid bacteria growing and causing food poisoning.**

29

**Pack snacks and drinks**, so you and your family will be fueled up for a road trip.

30

**Break up a long drive** by finding a few places to stop that will get the kids out of the car and moving.

31

**Compost** leftover food scraps and leaves.

