Whether it's caused by a careless match, a bolt of lightning, or faulty wiring, fire can pose a serious threat to any family. Luckily, you can prepare for fire in any of its forms, and it may not be as difficult as you think. Take a look below at some simple items that can help you keep your cool when the heat comes.

NOTE: IF YOU'RE IN A BURNING BUILDING, YOUR #1 PRIORITY IS GETTING OUT. KEEP YOUR GEAR IN A EASY-GRAB LOCATION, AND DON'T HESITATE TO LEAVE THINGS BEHIND IF NECESSARY.

**EMERGENCY KIT**

Often, a fire near or in your home means that you need to make a quick getaway, and a handy backpack full of survival basics can ease the departure. Consider food, water, first aid, warmth, light, and communication as you assemble your kit.

WHERE’S A HANDY SPOT IN YOUR HOUSE TO STORE YOUR GRAB’N’DASH KIT?

**COMMUNICATION/RADIO**

In any emergency situation, good communication is essential. It’s important to be in touch — not only with your family and loved ones — but with news and weather reports.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR LOCAL EMERGENCY RADIO STATION?

DOES YOUR FAMILY KNOW WHERE TO MEET UP IN AN EMERGENCY?

**LIGHT & POWER SUPPLIES**

Portable energy and light sources are invaluable if a fire forces your family out of your home. Consider storing a lightweight power source in your car or in other handy places.

DO YOUR FLASHLIGHTS HAVE FRESH & BACKUP BATTERIES?

HAVE YOU PRACTICED USING YOUR PORTABLE POWER SOURCE?

**SMOKE ALARMS**

The NFPA recommends installing smoke alarms in every sleeping room and on every level of your house. Be sure to test each alarm once a month. Plan with your family to know what to do and where to go if a smoke alarm sounds.

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU CHECKED YOUR SMOKE ALARMS?

FIND MORE KNOW-HOW AND GET FIRE-READY AT BePrepared.com