

# FIRE ESCAPE Plan

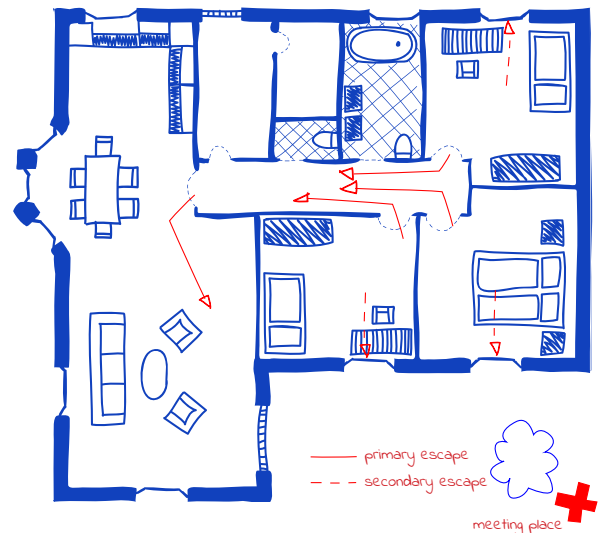


House fires are one of the most common disasters people face in this country so it's important that everyone has an evacuation plan and practices it regularly. During a house fire every second counts, so all family members should be familiar with the primary and secondary exits of your home.

## Getting Started

**Make a map of your home and include the following:**

1. Label every exit, including doors, windows and hallways
2. In every room label the primary exit (usually a door or hallway) and a secondary exit (usually a window) in case the primary exit is blocked by smoke or flame
3. Label every room a family member sleeps in
4. Label the main valves of the gas, electricity and water lines
5. Establish a safe meeting place outside the home so everyone can be accounted for



## Follow through

**Practice! Practice! Practice!**

No evacuation plan will work unless it is practiced on a regular basis. Involve the whole family and also practice other life-saving habits such as always leaving a pair of shoes and a flashlight at each person's bedside. When you practice the evacuation plan assign certain family members to be in charge of certain things (i.e. turning off utilities or getting the 72 hour supplies).

**Practice with time in mind**

Try running through your plan at least 4 times each year and adjust your plan according to the ages of family members and if you move to a new location. Also remember to check your smoke detectors on a regular basis.