

Unexpected Ways Fires Start

#1 Source: Cooking

The Problem:

Cooking—we do it everyday, but are we doing it safely? Cooking is the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries.

A True Fire Story:

A fire in SE Roanoke destroyed a two story home, leaving both residents without their home. The fire was caused by the wrong burner being turned on. The house was demolished later that day because it was unsafe.

The Statistics:

23%
of fires,
9%
of deaths

On average, every year one out of every eight homes will have a kitchen cooking fire. Cooking fires mostly occur on the cook top, usually in the first 15 minutes of cooking. If a fire starts, don't carry the pan outside and don't put water on it! It's best to smother a cooking fire with a lid.



The Solution:

- Never leave the kitchen while something is cooking on the stove.
- Keep combustibles at least 3 feet away from the cook top. This includes curtains and wall hangings.
- Create a 3 ft. perimeter around the stove to keep children from being injured.
- Never hang dishcloths from the stove handle—young children can pull the door open causing a burn injury.
- Never put water on a grease fire or try to carry a pan that is on fire outside—this could cause more damage or injuries to you!
- Make sure you turn the cook top off when you are done cooking!



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