

# Unexpected Ways Fires Start

## #3 Source:

## Candles

### The Problem:

Candles are the second leading cause of home fire injuries.

### A True Fire Story:

A family was displaced in NW Roanoke when their power went out and they used candles. They left the candles lit when they went to bed and had to escape out of a window when the fire broke out. The house did not have working smoke detectors!

#### The Statistics:

5%  
of fires,  
3%  
of deaths

**Candles are pretty and smell good and they serve as great gifts.**

Couple that with burning candles near combustibles or on shaky holders and there's a huge potential for a catastrophic fire!

Using candles safely calls for the utmost in attention and care. They're simply a high risk item because you can easily set them near combustibles without noticing and forget them. Companies are now making flameless candles which offers a safer alternative to using candles.



### The Solution:

- Use only tip-proof containers.
- Blow out when you go out—only burn candles while you are awake or in the same room with them.
- Never burn candles that have combustibles cast into the wax.
- Keep candles at least 3 ft. away from combustibles.
- Make sure that candles are out of the reach of children.
- If your power goes out, use flashlights for light, not candles!



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