



CANDLE SAFETY

Over the last decade, candle fires have almost tripled. In 1999 alone, an estimated 15,040 home fires started by candles were reported to fire departments. These fires resulted in 102 deaths, 1,473 injuries and an estimated property loss of \$278 million. Forty percent of U.S. home candle fires begin in the bedroom.

- Always keep a burning candle within sight. Extinguish all candles when leaving a room or before going to sleep.
- Never burn a candle on or near anything that can catch fire. Keep burning candles away from furniture, drapes, bedding, carpets, books, paper, flammable decorations, etc.
- Keep lighted candles out of reach of children and pets. Do not place lighted candles where they can be knocked over by children, pets or anyone else.
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- Do not burn a candle for longer than the manufacturer recommends.
- Keep candles away from drafts, vents and air currents.
- Drafts can blow lightweight curtains or papers into the flame where they could catch fire.
- Extinguish flame if it comes too close to the holder or container. For a margin of safety, discontinue burning a candle when 2 inches of wax remains (1/2 inch if in a container).

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