

Home Safety Checklist - Residential Hazard & Fire Safety Check

Site / Project	_____	Address	_____
Inspector name	_____	Company	_____
Date	_____	Time	_____

Documentation aid only. Adapt this resource to the site, manufacturer instructions, and applicable local requirements. It does not replace a competent person, professional judgment, legal advice, or a required statutory form.

Inspection checklist

Fire Alarm & Detection

☐ Smoke alarms installed on every level of the home, outside each sleeping area, and inside each bedroom, as required by NFPA 71.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐ Each smoke alarm is within its 10-year service life (check the manufacture date on the back). Replace any unit older than 10 years.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐ Press the test button on every smoke alarm. The alarm should sound clearly. Replace any unit that does not activate.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐ Carbon monoxide (CO) alarms installed on every level of the home, outside each sleeping area, as required by NFPA 1.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐ Press the test button on every CO alarm. The alarm should sound. Replace any unit that does not activate or is past its service life.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐ Battery-powered alarms have fresh batteries. Replace batteries at least twice a year and whenever the low-battery chirp sounds.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____

Electrical Safety

☐ The electrical service panel cover is in place, undamaged, and not obstructed. Keep at least 36 inches of clear working space in front of the panel.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
---	-------------------------------	-------------------------------	------------------------------	--------------

☐	Every circuit breaker is labeled so you can identify what it controls. Unlabeled breakers make it hard to isolate a circuit safely.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐	GFCI (ground-fault circuit interrupter) outlets are installed in kitchens, bathrooms, garages, basements, and outdoors. Test the GFCI button; the outlet should cut power.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐	AFCI (arc-fault circuit interrupter) protection is present on bedroom and living-area circuits, as required by the National Electrical Code for most residential wiring.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐	Extension cords and appliance cords are not cut, frayed, or overloaded. Do not use damaged cords. Replace any cord with exposed wiring.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐	Portable space heaters are at least 3 feet away from curtains, bedding, furniture, and other combustibles. Heaters are turned off when leaving the room or going to sleep.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____

Gas & Water Heaters

☐	No gas odor near the gas meter, furnace, water heater, or gas appliances. If you smell gas, leave the home and call the gas company or 911 from outside.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐	The gas shutoff valve is accessible, labeled, and in the ON position when the appliance is in use. Know where it is before you need it.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐	The water heater temperature and pressure (T&P) relief valve is not capped, blocked, or painted over. The discharge pipe runs to a safe location (floor drain or within 6 feet of a floor).	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐	The water heater is within its expected service life (typically 8-12 years for a tank unit). Older units are more likely to leak or fail.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____

Water, Drainage & Mold

☐	No active leaks at faucets, shower valves, toilet bases, water heater connections, or under sinks. Fix drips promptly to prevent water damage and mold.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐	Ground around the foundation slopes away from the house so rainwater does not collect against the walls. Check for standing water after heavy rain.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____

☐	No visible mold, water stains, or musty odor in bathrooms, kitchens, basements, or around windows. Persistent moisture is a mold risk.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐	Crawlspace or basement is dry and ventilated. Check for condensation on pipes, joists, or foundation walls, which indicates a moisture problem.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____

Falls & Physical Hazards

☐	Stair handrails are secure and continuous on at least one side of every flight. Check that rails do not wobble when you apply pressure.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐	Carpet on stairs is not curled, loose, or worn through. Loose stair carpet is a trip and fall hazard, especially for children and older adults.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐	Bathtubs and shower floors have non-slip surfaces or mats. Check that mats are clean, not mildewed, and do not shift when wet.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐	Walking surfaces in hallways, kitchens, and entryways are clear of clutter, cords, and loose rugs. Rugs that must stay in place should have a non-slip pad.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐	Lighting is adequate in hallways, stairways, kitchens, and bathrooms. Replace burnt-out bulbs. Consider motion-sensor lights for nighttime paths.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____

Fire Escape & Preparedness

☐	Every bedroom has at least two ways to exit (a door and a window that opens). Windows are not painted shut or blocked by furniture.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐	A written or posted fire escape plan exists for the household. Every occupant knows the two exit routes from each room and the meeting point outside.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐	A rated fire extinguisher (at least 2A:10B:C) is available in the kitchen or near the stove. The pin is in place, the gauge is in the green, and the unit is within its service life.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐	Smoke alarms are tested monthly (press the test button) and batteries are replaced at least twice a year. This is a household habit, not a one-time task.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____

Findings

#	Item	Location	Severity	Action required
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				

Signature

Inspector signature _____

Name _____

Date _____