How do I prevent a cooking fire?

- Always stay in the kitchen while cooking. If you must leave, turn off the stove.
- Keep anything that burns — cooking utensils, dishcloths, paper towels and pot holders — a safe distance from the stove.
- Kids love to help but ensure long hair is tied back and they wear tight sleeves or roll them up when cooking. Loose-fitting clothes can come into contact with stove burners and catch fire.
- Don’t let kids lean on the stove or reach across it — if they aren’t tall enough to stand over the burners, use a proper step stool and do not leave them unsupervised.

What Should I do in the Event of a Fire?

- Keep a fire extinguisher handy and know how to use it (PASS — Pull the pin/Aim at the base of the fire/Squeeze the handle/Sweep back and forth at the base of the fire).
- If you don’t have an extinguisher, have a large box of salt or baking soda nearby — this can be used to smother flames.
- Never throw water on a grease fire or burning oil. This will spread the fire — try to smother it or get out of the house and call 9-1-1.
- Ensure you have a proper smoke alarm nearby and remember to replace the battery every time we “spring forward” to Daylight Savings Time.

If you have any doubt about fighting a small fire

Just get out! When you leave, close the door behind you to help contain the fire. Call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number from outside the home.
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What's the Risk?

- Cooking fires account for 22% of all home fires
- Cooking left unattended is the cause of 52% of all cooking fires
- Stovetop fires account for 71% of all cooking fires
- The average dollar loss per cooking fire is over $27,000

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