

## **Safety when Traveling**

When making hotel reservations, request a room on the first three floors, this way you know that fire department ladders will reach you if there is a fire. When checking into your room, check the emergency plan on the back of the door. Before you unpack, take your family members into the hallway and locate the two closest exits. Keep a small flashlight and your room key next to your bed.

If a fire starts in your room, escape and close the door behind you. Once you're out, activate the fire alarm, leave the building and call the fire department.

If the hotel fire alarm activates, prepare to evacuate the building. Take your room key and a flashlight with you. Always feel doors before opening them. NEVER use elevators during a fire. Exit down the stairs to the ground level or up the stairs to the roof, depending on the location of the fire. Check the stairway for heat and smoke before entering. Always close doors behind you.

If the fire is not in your room, but you're not sure it's safe to leave, or the door is hot, don't open the door. Prepare your room as a refuge. Shut off air conditioners and fans. Seal all cracks and vents with wet towels, magazines, plastic bags or duct tape. Fill the bathtub with water for cooling a hot door and extinguishing fire. Keep windows closed. Broken or open windows can draw smoke and toxic fumes into your room. Tape a single flag on your window. Use a shirt or pillowcase from your room. Wait in your room for help to arrive, your room will be the safest refuge.

If you travel often, or are going on a long vacation, pack a travel safety kit in with your luggage. This kit should contain a flashlight, whistle, a small roll of duct or packing tape, 2 large plastic trash bags, and a brightly colored safety vest or material to be used as a flag.

The key to fire survival is knowing what your options are before an emergency occurs!

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