



## B. INSPECTION TIME!

- Check each Bedroom for the best window or door for an emergency escape.
- Test windows-make sure they open easily and are large enough and low enough. Ask yourself: can children open it?
- While you're at it, check your smoke detector. If you don't have one get one.

## C. FINISH YOUR ESCAPE PLAN

- \* Use blue or black arrows to show the normal way out, such as the stairs or hall.
- Use different colored arrows to show emergency exits in case fire blocks your normal route.

## SAFETY TIPS

- *Be sure everyone has a second way out*
- *Escape ladders may be necessary.*
- \* *Any security devices should open easily;*

*In a fire you might not be able to find a key.*

- *If necessary, rearrange bedrooms to provide easier escape for children, elderly or disabled.*
- *Never use elevators if there's a fire.*

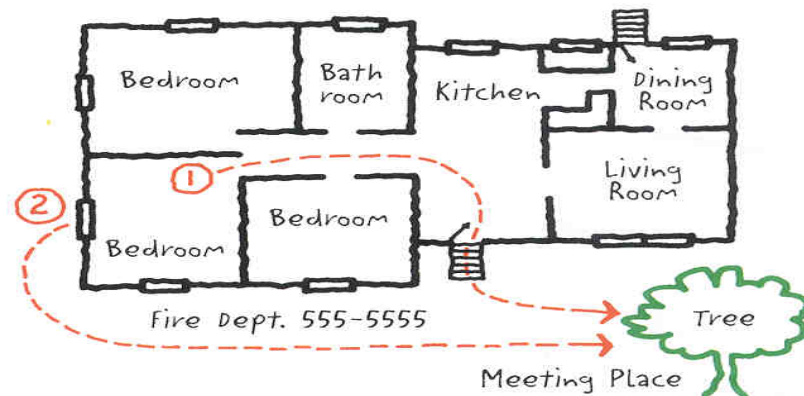
## E.D.I.T.H step-by-step Exit Drills for the Home

A Fire Safety Message from the Rhode Island State Fire Marshal's Office  
"Prevention Through Education"  
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Telephone: (401) 889-5555 — Fax: (401) 889-5533  
Www.fire-marshal.ri.gov

### 1 - PLANNING YOUR ESCAPE

#### A.. THE FLOOR PLAN

- Draw an outline of your home or apartment. Make a drawing for each floor where people sleep. Dimensions don't need to be exact.
- Now add each bedroom and label it. Show important details: stairs, hallways, windows, or roofs that could be used as a fire escape.
- Choose a family meeting place and show it on the plan.



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## 2— THE FAMILY MEETING

**Discuss your plan and procedures with your family:**

- 1. Always sleep with the bedroom doors closed. This will keep heat and smoke out for short time—the few extra minutes you may need to escape.**
- 2. Find a way for everyone to sound a family fire alarm. Blow a whistle, pound on walls, yell, etc.**
- 3. In a fire, seconds count. Don't waste time dressing or looking for valuables or pets. As much as they may mean to you, your life is more important.**
- 4. Roll out of bed. Stay low. Just one breath of smoke or hot gases can kill you.**
- 5. Feel the door. If the door or doorknob is hot, don't open it! Instead, use your second way out.**
- 6. Once outside, go to your family meeting place. Check to see if everyone is safe. Once your out, stay out!**
- 7. Call 911 or the appropriate emergency contact from a neighbor's house, cellular phone, or other safe location. Again STAY OUT!**

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## 3—THE DRILL

- 1. Begin with everyone in his her bed.*
- 2. Sound the Alarm. Press the smoke detector test button. Yell FIRE! Or cause some other signal.*
- 3. Everyone should roll out of bed, stay low and feel the door for heat. First time: use the normal exit. Brace your shoulder against the door and open it slowly, ready to shut it quickly if there is heat or smoke. Second time: pretend doors are hot. Everyone must use the second way out. (Please note; if a window is your second way out, the just open the window and stay there, do not attempt to jump, unless there is an actual emergency.*
- 4. Gather at meeting place and check that everyone is out.*
- 5. Appoint someone to simulate calling the fire department.*
- 6. Get together to talk about the drill. Make changes to plan if necessary and rehearse them.*
- 7. Hold a family escape drill every few months—at least twice a year. The more you practice, the better you will be able to act quickly and automatically in a fire emergency.*

### WHY E.D.I.T.H? ... REMEMBER THIS

- Most fatal home fires happen between midnight and 8 a.m. when most people are asleep
- Toxic gases and heat-1000°F-rise and can travel far ahead of the actual fire.
- When your smoke detector sounds, you may have less that 2 1/2 minutes to get out. Without an Escape Plan you have practiced, you may not make it!
- If you don't have a smoke detector, you may never wake up!