

# Candle Safety

*People have safely enjoyed using candles for centuries. Their colors and scents enhance everyday life and evoke memories of special events.*



Candles are a source of light and delight when used properly. However, if certain precautions are not taken, candles can also become a factor in a chain of events that can result in unnecessary injury and fires.



## CANDLE USAGE TIPS

- Recommended burning time is one hour per inch diameter of the candle.



- Hold your finger in front of the flame as you blow the candle out. The air will flow around your finger and extinguish the candle from both sides. This prevents any hot wax from splattering.

## CANDLE SAFETY TIPS

- Always use a flashlight, not a candle, for emergency lighting.
- Consider using battery-operated flameless candles.
- Keep candles at least 12-inches from flammable materials.
- Use sturdy, safe candle holders.
- Never leave a burning candle unattended.
- Be careful not to splatter wax when extinguishing a candle.
- Avoid using candles in bedrooms and sleeping areas.



## DURING POWER OUTAGES

- Use a flashlight instead of a candle whenever possible.
- Avoid carrying a lit candle.
- Don't use a lit candle when searching for items in a confined space.
- Never use a candle for a light when checking pilot lights or fueling equipment. The flame may ignite the fumes.

## CANDLES AND CHILDREN

- Keep candles out of reach of children, and never leave a child unattended with a lit candle.
- A child should not sleep in a room with a lit candle.
- Don't allow children or teens to have candles in their bedrooms.

*Did you know...*

**December is the peak month for candle fires and Christmas is the peak day?**



**HOLIDAY FIRE SAFETY**

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY & FIRE PROTECTION

<https://www.fire.ca.gov/programs/communications/www.fire.ca.gov>