

As you deck the halls this holiday season, be fire smart. A small fire that spreads to a Christmas tree can grow large very quickly.



PICKING THE TREE

Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.



PLACING THE TREE

-))) Before placing the tree in the stand, cut 2" from the base of the trunk.
- Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights.
-))) Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- Add water to the tree stand. Be sure to add water daily.



LIGHTING THE TREE

- Use lights that have the label of an independent testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use.
- No Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Connect no more than three strands of mini string sets and a maximum of 50 bulbs for screw-in bulbs. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of LED strands to connect.
- Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.
- Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.

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After Christmas

Get rid of the tree after
Christmas or when it is dry.
Dried-out trees are a fire
danger and should not be
left in the home or garage,
or placed outside against
the home. Check with your
local community to find a
recycling program.
Bring outdoor electrical
lights inside after
the holidays to
prevent hazards
and make them
last longer.

FACTS

- ! One of every three home Christmas tree fires are caused by electrical problems.
- ! Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are more likely to be serious.
- ! A heat source too close to the tree causes roughly **one in every six** of the fires.

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