

Holiday Decorations



Decorations around the home may be beautiful, but can also be hazardous. When purchasing or hanging your holiday decorations, keep a little safety in mind. CAL FIRE wants you and your loved ones to enjoy a safe and happy holiday season.



DECORATING SAFELY

- When decorating the outside of your home, keep yourself, your decorations and equipment at least 10 feet from power lines. Make sure decorations are well-ventilated, protected from weather and a safe distance away from flammable items.
- Unplug electric lights, devices and decorations before installing or replacing bulbs, changing parts or attempting other repairs.



IN HOMES WITH SMALL CHILDREN

- Avoid trimmings that resemble candy or food. A child could eat them!
- Avoid decorations that are sharp or breakable.
- Keep trimmings with small removable parts out of reach of children. Pieces could be swallowed or inhaled.



PAPER DECORATIONS, TRIMMINGS AND WRAPPING PAPER

- Use only non-combustible or flame retardant materials.
- Choose tinsel or artificial icicles made from plastic or non-leaded metals. Leaded materials are hazardous if ingested by children and/or pets.
- When making paper decorations, look for materials labeled "flame proof" or "fire resistant."
- Never place trimmings near open flames or electrical connections. Be especially careful if paper is used for holiday costumes.
- Remove all wrapping papers from trees and fireplace areas immediately after presents are opened. Place papers in a metal-covered trash barrel. Never burn them in a fireplace. Wrappings are very flammable and ignite suddenly and burn fiercely. Pieces of burning paper may rise-up in the chimney and land on a roof or dry vegetation, starting a fire.

Did you know...

Metal ladders conduct electricity. Use wooden or fiberglass ladders when putting up electrical décor and lights outside.



HOLIDAY FIRE SAFETY

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY & FIRE PROTECTION

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