

# Loss Prevention Safety Tip



Loss Prevention  
Program

By Red River Mutual

## FIRE SAFETY IN THE KITCHEN

**Kitchen fires are a leading cause of property damage and personal injury. By following a few safety tips you can prevent most cooking fire incidents.**

- Never leave the kitchen unattended when frying, grilling or broiling food.
- Use a timer when simmering, baking, roasting or boiling food and check the kitchen regularly.
- Always turn the oven and burners off when finished cooking.
- Stay alert and avoid cooking when under the influence of medications or alcohol.
- Prevent burns and stove top fires by turning pot handles toward the back of the stove and use the rear burners when children are in the kitchen.
- Keep all cooking appliances clean and free of spills and grease that may catch fire.
- Keep all combustibles including oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels, pot holders and curtains away from hot surfaces.
- Avoid overloading electrical outlets with too many kitchen appliances and ensure electrical cords are not frayed, cracked or damaged.
- Be sure to test smoke alarms monthly and replace the batteries at least once a year.
- Keep a class ABC general purpose fire extinguisher in the kitchen or pantry for emergency use, and inspect it monthly according to the manufacturer's instructions.



### What to do if you have a kitchen fire?

- Smother the fire by sliding a lid or cookie sheet over the flames and turn the heat source off.
- If the flames do not go out, leave your home immediately and call 911 or your local emergency number.
- If the fire is small and confined and you choose to fight the fire, ensure all other occupants leave and have a clear way out.
- For an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed until completely cooled.



**See more loss prevention tips at [www.preventingloss.com](http://www.preventingloss.com)**

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