Home Fire Safety: Checklist

Is your home free of hazards?

☐ Check electrical appliances for loose or frayed cords. Do not place wires under rugs.
☐ Check for outlets overloaded with plugs; including TV, computer, stereo, and printer.
☐ Install GFCI (ground fault circuit interrupter) outlets in your home; especially near sources of water like your bathroom, kitchen and laundry room.
☐ Use the correct bulb wattage for home light fixtures.
☐ If any appliances spark, smell unusual or overheat, replace or get repaired by a professional.
☐ Lamps and nightlights should not touch any fabrics (bedspreads, drapes).
☐ Electrical blankets are unplugged when not in use. Check for frayed or loose cords and any odd smell. If a problem is detected, replace.
☐ Supervise children around the stove and microwave.
☐ Candles should be out of reach of children and pets, curtains and furniture. Never leave candles unattended.
☐ Annual inspection of furnace or heating system

☐ Space heaters:
  o Keep out of walking paths.
  o Keep away from children and pets.
  o Placed away from beds.
  o Newspapers, magazines, and any fabrics, including curtains, sheets, tablecloths, are a not within 3 feet of a space heater.
  o Unplug when not in use.

☐ In the kitchen
  o Keep an eye on appliances when in use.
  o Make sure appliances are turned off and unplugged when not in use.
  o When using pots and pans, use the rear burners and turn the handles inwards.
  o Do not wear loose clothing while cooking.

☐ Fireplaces
  o Keep the fire place clean.
  o Cover your fireplace with a screen.
  o Only burn wood. Papers and other materials can escape while burning and ignite something nearby.
  o The fire should be completely extinguished before leaving the room.
  o Have your chimney cleaned professionally once a year.