

Candle Safety

Fort Knox Regulation 420-1 states candles will not be used on post for decoration or lighting, except in approved religious services.

According to the National Candle Association, 70 percent of households use candles in the United States. Most people don't see candles as a major fire hazard, but according to the National Fire Protection Association from 2006 to 2010 candle fires accounted for 11,640 home structure fires, 126 deaths, 953 injuries, and an estimated \$438 million in property damage. Read the report at <http://www.nfpa.org/assets/files/pdf/candlefactsheet.pdf>.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) offers the following candle safety tips:

- Use candles only with constant adult supervision.
- Extinguish all candles when leaving a room or going to sleep.
- Keep candles away from items that can catch fire, such as clothing, paper or curtains.
- Place candles and candle holders on a secure piece of furniture.
- Make sure candleholders are non-combustible and large enough to collect the dripping wax.
- Do not place lighted candles in windows, where blinds or curtains can close over them.
- Keep wicks trimmed to 1/4 inch, and extinguish candles when they burn to within two inches of the holder.
- Keep candles and all open flames away from flammable liquids. Candle wax can run down and catch fire to the counter and other things it is sitting on.
- Do not use candles in places where they can be knocked over by children or pets.

More safety tips from the National Candle Association: <http://www.candles.org/safety.html>