



Thanksgiving Safety Tips



Cooking

- Stay in the kitchen when you are cooking on the stovetop so you can keep an eye on the food.
- Stay in the home when cooking your turkey and check on it frequently.
- Keep children away from the stove. The stove will be hot, and kids should stay 3 feet away.
- Make sure kids stay away from hot food and liquids. The steam or splash from vegetables, gravy or coffee could cause serious burns.
- Keep the floor clear so you don't trip over kids, toys, pocketbooks or bags.
- Keep knives out of the reach of children.
- Be sure electric cords from an electric knife, coffee maker, plate warmer or mixer are not dangling off the counter within easy reach of a child.
- Keep matches and utility lighters out of the reach of children — up high in a locked cabinet.
- Never leave children alone in room with a lit candle.
- Make sure your smoke alarms are working. Test them by pushing the test button.



Thanksgiving is the leading day of the year for home fires involving cooking equipment.

Have activities that keep kids out of the kitchen during this busy time. Games, puzzles or books can keep them busy. Kids can get involved in Thanksgiving preparations with recipes that can be done **outside** the kitchen.

Black Friday Shopping

Protect yourself in the store: From fistfights to identity theft, shopping at Black Friday sales brings a few safety risks. Consider these holiday shopping safety tips:

- Keep your purse close to your body or your wallet in an inside coat pocket or front pants pocket.
- Don't argue or fight over an item.
- Don't take your money out until asked to do so.
- Use only one credit card to reduce the risk of having multiple cards compromised in case of identity theft.
- Save your receipts and monitor your credit card activity.
- Ask for help moving and loading large items if needed.
- If shopping with children, select a central location to meet in case you are separated. Teach kids how to ask a security guard or employee for help if they're lost.

Be safer in the car: You may encounter aggressive drivers on the road. Don't add to the problem: Remember [to drive defensively and don't allow road rage to rise](#). [Parking lots can be dangerous](#) too, so be on guard:

- Be patient when looking for a parking space. Don't speed up to catch that empty (or soon-to-be empty) spot and be cautious of other drivers who do.
- Park your vehicle in a well-lit area.
- Look around and under your vehicle before approaching it.
- Store shopping bags out of plain sight, in your trunk if possible.
- Look for other cars or people; back out slowly.

Please contact your Community Service Officers with your questions or suggestions.

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