

Holiday SAFETY GUIDE



HOME HAZARDS

Got a houseful of guests for the holidays? Take action to prevent these common holidays hazards and keep your season merry and bright.

OLD AND FAULTY WIRING



- Check and repair old wiring
- Help guests avoid overloading and short circuiting your outlets with electronic devices, hair dryers, and appliances

SLIPPERY SURFACES & TRIP HAZARDS

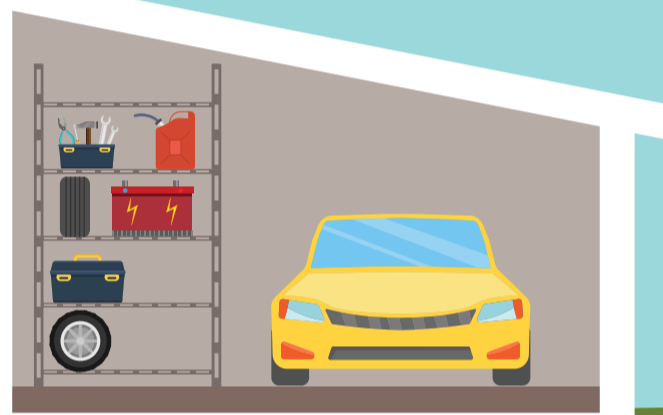


- Buy some extra rugs for the kitchen, entryways, and bathrooms to prevent wet floors and slippery surfaces
- Place anti-skid mats under all rugs to prevent them from buckling and tripping guests
- Keep extension cords from decorations tucked away and out of main traffic areas

UNFAMILIAR APPLIANCES



- Kids and elderly guests should avoid operating appliances they aren't familiar with to avoid accident or injury
- Post notes around your more sensitive or tricky appliances, like *"Please Don't Run Dishwasher"* or *"Turn handle left for HOT water!"*



DEEP-FRIED DISASTERS



Although delicious, deep-fried turkeys are one of the biggest fire hazards during the holidays. Turkey fryer accidents are responsible for approximately \$15 million in property damage in the US every year. (National Fire Prevention Agency)

SHOULD YOU DEEP FRY YOUR TURKEY? DO THE MATH.

- Cost of deep fried turkey from local restaurant approximately \$45
- Average deductible for fire related home insurance claim \$1,500

IF YOU MUST FRY YOUR OWN TURKEY, FOLLOW SOME SIMPLE TIPS:

- Place the fryer on flat ground at least 10 feet away from your home.
- Never leave the fryer unattended.
- Follow the directions carefully and use the instructed amount of oil.
- Only use a fully thawed turkey, **NEVER** frozen.

HOLIDAY THEFT



There are over 2 million home burglaries reported every year in the United States resulting in 4.7 billion in property losses. The holidays are the peak season for home burglaries.

- 65% of burglaries happen between 6pm and 6am
- Homes without security systems are 300% more likely to be broken into

TIPS TO AVOID BEING TARGETED:

- Keep a light on with a timer even when not at home
- Keep your car locked, even in the garage
- Ensure that your home has adequate exterior lighting around doors to discourage would be burglars
- Store valuables somewhere safe before leaving the house
- If you're leaving for an extended time, get a house sitter or ask a trusted friend or neighbor to keep an eye on your home.

Southern Oak Insurance believes peace, love, and goodwill should be shared all year-round, not just during the holidays. For more great Florida homeowner tips and to find out how we can help you protect your family, **contact us** today to learn more about our comprehensive claims services and innovative policies.


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