Every year, thousands of people are killed in home fires. It's a very real and serious problem! That's why you must know how to get out of a burning building quickly and skillfully. Here are some important tips to show you how!

1. **Smoke Detectors Save Lives!**
   - **You won't escape if you don't have adequate warning!** So, the first rule is... install smoke detectors outside every sleeping area and on each floor. That means the basement too! Check the batteries often to make sure your family's warning system is always in good working order!

2. **Have an Escape Plan!**
   - The best way is to make a room-by-room layout of your home with all emergency exits from each part clearly shown. Make sure all members of the family know and understand exactly what to do and where to go in emergency!

3. **Two Ways Out!**
   - Be sure there is more than one exit from every room to avoid being trapped if a fire does endanger your home and family!

4. **Practice! Practice!**
   - Even in the dark!

5. **Crawl Low Under Smoke!**
   - Smoke is usually poisonous! It can choke you or knock you out. If you exit through smokey areas, get down low, close to the floor where the air will be safer and go! Go! Go!

6. **Infants & Elders**
   - Little children, elderly people and the disabled will need special attention! Be sure to include the proper consideration they require when making your escape plan.

7. **If you live in an apartment building, never use an elevator during a fire escape!** It could get jammed between floors, or stop, out of control. Trapping you where the fire is raging!
8 GET OUT FAST!

- If a fire does occur, use the knowledge and skills that you've practiced to get out as quickly as you can. Don't stay to save pets or possessions, and once safely away, use an outside phone to call the fire department.

9 KNOW WHERE TO GO!

- Have a set meeting place outside, like a tree at a safe distance, preferably on or near the street where the fire department would arrive.

10 NEVER GO BACK INSIDE!

- Once you are safely out, stay out!

11 WHAT IF YOU ARE TRAPPED?

- Test doors before opening! Reach from the floor and lightly feel cracks, knobs, and frames. Open carefully if cool. Keep shut if hot! If you can't escape, stuff door cracks to keep out smoke and signal for help from a window. If there's a phone, notify the fire dept. of your exact location.

12 PREPARATION PAYS!

- Automatic sprinkler systems are a safe bet! They can quench a fire in its early stages! Also, if your home has security bars or locks on windows and doors, make sure the entire family can open them quickly even in the dark. Rows on upper floors should be equipped with rope ladders or fire escapes for ultimate safety. Always be prepared... and practice E.D.I.T.H. 

13 EXIT DRILLS IN THE HOME

- Learn to get out safe and get out fast!

EDITH (Evacuation, Drop, and Hold) EXIT DRILLS IN THE HOME

- Lafayette Fire Department

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“OUR FAMILY HELPING YOUR FAMILY”