



## Be Safe This Holiday

By Jimmy Hill,  
 Fire Marshal, LAFD

Fire Dept's Fire Marshal Hill offers these safety tips to ensure your holiday is a happy one.

### Christmas trees:

- Never purchase a dry Christmas tree.
- Never place a Christmas tree near a fireplace or any other heating source.
- Remove your Christmas tree before it becomes brittle, or no later than Jan. 1.
- Make sure your live Christmas tree has plenty of water.
- Always recycle your Christmas tree; never burn it in the fire-place.

### Candles:

- Keep all candles away from flammable materials.
- Always place candles in a good, sturdy holder that won't burn, and won't tip over.

### Christmas lights:

- Never use Christmas lights that are broken, have missing lights or have frayed cords.
- Always turn off Christmas lights prior to leaving your house or going to bed at night.

### Wrapping paper:

- Never throw wrapping paper into a fireplace.

### Fireplaces:

- Always use a fireplace screen when using your fireplace.
- Make sure your fireplace has a spark arrestor.

### For good safety:

- Make sure you have a working smoke alarm.
- If your clothes catch on fire, know how to "stop" (where you are), "drop" (to the ground) and "roll" (to smother the fire).
- Always dial 9-1-1 to report emergencies.

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