

Christmas Tree Safety



Each year, an estimated 33 million Americans have a live tree as part of their Christmas decorations. Unfortunately, there are also about 400 house fires each year, which leads to \$13.8 million in property damage. Improper care and/or dried out trees can be a dangerous fire hazard.

There are important steps to take to keep your family and your home safe if you choose a live tree:

1. Always purchase a **HEALTHY** tree. Make sure the needles of the tree bounce back, do not fall out, and the twigs are firm.
2. Be sure to cut off approximately five inches from the bottom of the tree and place in the stand and **WATER** immediately. Keep watering every day to ensure the tree will not dry out.
3. Keep your tree away from fireplaces and/or heaters! Not only can a spark possibly start a fire, but the heat will dry out the tree.
4. Use only UL approved lights to decorate your tree and be sure to inspect the strands of lights/bulbs for breakage or wear. When in doubt, throw it out!!
5. Don't put your tree up too early as it will start to dry out and die as soon as it is cut.



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