

Start now to make sure your home will be hazard-safe for the holidays. Whether setting up the electric lights on your tree or front entrance, finishing that last-minute baking, or clearing away the snow just before guests arrive, most families are in a mad rush to decorate their homes and frequently, needless accidents occur in the frenzy! Here are a few tips to safety-check your house for a happy, household-safe Christmas:



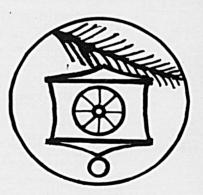
Don't burn Christmas wrappings or evergreen boughs in your fireplace. They ignite quickly and may throw off sparks and burning debris. If you clear your paths with a gas-fueled snowblower, never refuel while the blower is running or the engine is hot. Refuel outdoors only, and don't use gasoline as a cleaner.

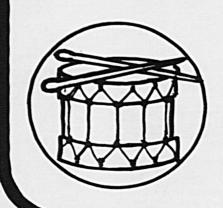




Don't overdo holiday lighting by overloading the circuit. Purchase lights that have been checked for safety. Look for the Underwriters' Laboratories (UL) label.

Use flameproof decorations throughout your home; get rid of your tree when it dries out.





Avoid toys that produce extremely loud noises since they can damage hearing. Don't buy propelled objects because they could injure an eye.

Have a reliable fire extinguisher in your home, easily accessable, ready for use at all times.

