

CLOSED DOORS

CLOSED DOORS SAVE
LIVES

An open door does two dangerous things:

1) It allows fire to spread more easily into a room and ignite flammable materials. 2) It makes it easier for oxygen to flow into the room, acting as a pump feeding more fuel to the fire. By limiting the flow of oxygen to a room, a closed door can starve a fire of what it needs. In addition to protecting those in the house, closed doors make it easier and safer for firefighters to put out a fire.

EFFECT OF CLOSED DOORS

Smoke: Closed doors limit the spread of smoke, which is often the cause of fire fatalities.

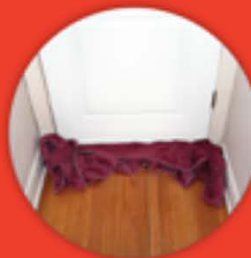
Heat: They can reduce the temperature from 1,000 degrees to a survivable 100 degrees.

Carbon Monoxide: A closed door can reduce carbon monoxide levels by 90%.

Time: By limiting the spread of fire and smoke, a closed door can give extra time to escape.

MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER

The design of many new homes is open concept, which makes it easier for fire to spread. Many home furnishings are now made with synthetic materials that burn hotter and faster. Because of these changes, people have less time to react. On average, you have about 3 minutes to escape a home fire.



**ON
AVERAGE,
OVER 10
PEOPLE DIE
IN FIRES
EVERY DAY.**

FIRE SAFETY CHECKLIST

In addition to closing doors, make sure that you:

- Test your smoke alarms at least once a month.
- Replace smoke detector batteries every six months.
- Have a fire escape plan for each room.
- Have a safe meeting place away from the home.
- Regularly have home fire drills.

WHAT TO DO IN A FIRE

If you are able to escape a fire through a door, close the door behind you. This can help to prevent the spread of the fire. The most important thing to do in a fire is to exit quickly and safely. Do not take extra time to go through the house and close doors that are not along your escape route. GET OUT!!!

**IN A FIRE, THERE IS LITTLE
TIME TO ACT.**



**[fire.chathamcountyga.gov/
Resources/Safety](https://fire.chathamcountyga.gov/Resources/Safety)**

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BEFORE YOU SLEEP, SHUT YOUR DOOR!