

MAKE A PLAN

You need to prepare an escape plan of your home. Start in the bedrooms and make sure there are two accessible ways out of each room.

Test the smoke detector(s) and make sure they are working.

Bars on windows and grates over the exterior doors will make it more difficult to get out.

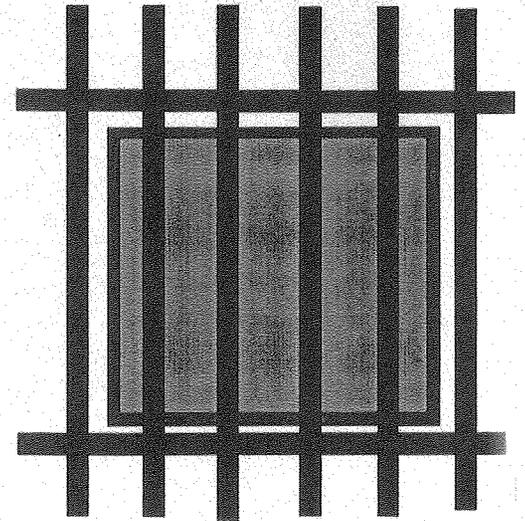
Make sure everyone in your household practices the escape plan. Everyone needs to know how to get out and where to meet.

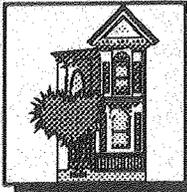
You need a meeting place a safe distance from the home. Make sure everyone in the household knows the location of the meeting place and meets there if there is a fire in your home. When the Fire Department arrives, tell them if everyone is out or not.



**Ventura City
Fire Department**
1425 Dowell Drive
Ventura, CA 93003
(805) 339-4300

HOME
SECURITY
CAN
KILL!

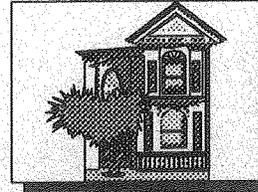




Don't make your home your prison!

People install bars over windows and iron grates over their doors to provide security for their families and personal property that has taken years to acquire. One thing that people don't usually think about is how they would get out in case they have a fire. People often place bars over their bedroom windows and bolt them through the wall. If the bars on your bedroom windows do not open from the inside of the room, you are asking for trouble. Stories (all true) abound from throughout our country telling of the horror suffered by people that were trapped in their homes during a fire because of bars on windows that would not open. This is your chance, get educated on the proper installation and approved devices that are designed to provide safety and security for you and your family.

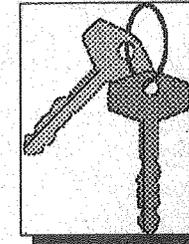
Get the information you need.



For safety's sake, call the City of Stockton Building Department or County Building Department to get the information you need if you are contemplating installing bars on windows or security grates on the outside of your doors.

The installation of bars on windows or security grates on doors, requires the approval of the City or County Building Departments, depending on the location of the property. Plans are required to be submitted and approved prior to installation. If approved, a permit will be issued for a nominal fee. These requirements are necessary whether the work is performed by a private citizen or hired contractor.

Proper locks are also very important!



Everyone should have dead bolts on their exterior doors. But some people go beyond that and install double keyed cylinder dead bolts. These locks are illegal for use in residential applications. The problem with this type of lock is that you need a key to unlock the door from inside of the home. In an emergency, you don't have time to look for a key.

Remember, in a fire every second counts! Make corrections now before a tragedy occurs.

Get those locks replaced if your doors are equipped with double keyed cylinder dead bolts.