



Loss Control Topic

Fire Prevention Checklist for Houses of Worship

The extent of a house of worship's fire exposure will be determined by the scope of operations, accessibility to the public, physical location, and the construction of the facility. Combustible furnishings, candle usage, and arson are the primary fire risks. The following areas should be reviewed to provide a comprehensive exposure assessment.

General		Yes	No	Action to be taken
1.	Are the building's draperies and decorations fire retardant?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2.	Is the building equipped with a lightning protection system?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3.	Do the electrical and HVAC systems appear to be in good working condition? When was the last time they were inspected by a qualified person?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4.	Are accumulations of combustible materials, such as vestments, paper supplies and decorations stored in an area separated by firewalls or fire barriers?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5.	Is the building protected by an automatic sprinkler system? If yes, is the system under a maintenance and service contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6.	Is the fire alarm system covered by a maintenance and service contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.	Are artifacts, works of art, and other collectibles that are in storage placed in a protected enclosure?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8.	Are draperies, tapestries and other decorations fire retardant? In not, are they located away from ignition sources such as votive candle racks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Operations				
9.	Are fuel-powered equipment, such as lawnmowers, stored in a separate building?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10.	Are decorations located away from ignition sources, such as votive candle racks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

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Operations - continued	Yes	No	Action to be taken
11. When candles are used in ceremonies, is the distribution of the candles controlled? Are they kept at least 4 feet (1.22 m) from combustible materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
12. Does a designated person remain for 30 minutes after candles have been extinguished to ensure that re-ignition has not occurred?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
13. Are kitchen facilities provided with fire protection and suppression systems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
14. Are fire extinguishers in kitchens listed/approved for such use and located within 10 feet (3 m) of any cooking equipment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Incendiarism and Arson			
15. Are all exterior doors, windows and other openings securely locked when the building is not in use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
16. Is the property adequately illuminated at night?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
17. Are lighting fixtures protected against breakage and are burned-out bulbs replaced on a regular basis?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
18. Is the perimeter of the property to be fenced?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
19. Are bushes, trees and shrubs kept trimmed and located to prevent them from serving as places of concealment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
20. Is the building protected by a burglar alarm system? If yes, is the system covered by a maintenance and service contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

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