# Fire Window Decals



The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) does not recommend the use of window decals such as "Tot Finders" which are designed to alert firefighters to the locations of children's bedrooms. The NFPA's reasoning is based upon the following:

# **REASONS**

#### 1. FALSE SENSE OF SECURITY

NFPA's educational philosophy is to teach proactive, quick response to fires for all ages. These decals could give you and your family a false sense of security and may imply to children that it is safe to wait to be rescued, rather than respond immediately on their own.

### 2. EDUCATION IS KEY

Even at a very young age, children can be taught the basics of home escape planning: responding ✓IN CASE OF FIRE immediately when the smoke alarms sound, knowing two ways out of every room, crawling low under smoke, gathering at a meeting place, and calling the fire department from outside the burning building.

### 3. VULNERABILITY

The window decals signal an area of vulnerability in the home, which could put children or the entire household at risk from intruders

### 4. SAFETY FOR FIREFIGHTERS

The NFPA is concerned about the safety of firefighters who may enter a bedroom with a decal on the window to search for trapped children, only to learn that the children have changed rooms, grown up or moved out.

### 5. SAFETY FOR OTHERS

Rescue is the foremost concern of firefighters. They are trained to make a thorough and systematic search for anyone inside a burning building. Critical time could be lost in looking for windows marked with decals, with no assurance anyone would be in that room.

# WHAT TO DO

#### ✓ REMOVE ALL STICKERS

Remove them and take a proactive approach to your family's safety.

#### ✓ PRACTICE FIRE ESCAPE PLANS

Practice your escape plan throughout the year, until you are confident your children have the information and skills they need to make smart decisions in an emergency

Alert any emergency worker of the situation. Tell them who is accounted for and who is not. If anyone is missing, tell them where their bedroom is, and the planned route out of the building. The more information to us, the easier it will be to find them