

# The Do's & Don'ts of Fire Damage

 [utahfloodcleanup.com/the-dos-donts-of-fire-damage/](http://utahfloodcleanup.com/the-dos-donts-of-fire-damage/)



If your home has been damaged by fire, it is important that you know the right steps to take and which ones to avoid. ***Taking the correct steps following fire damage to your home, including hiring a fire restoration company, can help prevent more long-term and costly damage to your property.*** Make sure to contact us as soon as possible if your home has suffered damage from a [fire](#), [flood](#), [mold](#) or [any other disaster](#). We are available to assist you 24/7.

## **Fire Damage Do's**

- **Safety is the top priority:** First, ***never enter your home until you have been given permission by fire safety authorities.*** Once you have been given permission, always take the appropriate safety measures, which include wearing gloves and respiratory protection. As the [Institute of Inspection, Cleaning and Restoration Certification](#) (IICRC) explains, soot residue from fires can lead to respiratory problems and other serious medical issues.
- **Keep movements in your home to a minimum:** This is for safety reasons and to prevent airborne soot particles from getting into upholstery and carpets. Always wear a respirator if you have to be inside your home.
- **Open windows and put in fans.** For ventilation, open the windows and put in box fans. This will help push out contaminated air and dust, while limiting more extensive smoke damage and the risk of injury.
- **Vacuum loose soot from upholstery and carpets with a HEPA (High-Efficiency Particulate Air) Filter.** High efficiency vacuums with effective filtration systems work to stop soot from being pushed back into cleaned spaces. Make sure to change the filter on a frequent basis.

- **Bedding, clothing and other materials should be washed or laundered.** An alkaline cleaner can be used on washable materials; it works by neutralizing the acid in the soot. Finer materials should be sent to a professional dry-cleaner who has restoration cleaning experience with smoke-damaged clothing. Make sure the dry-cleaner cleaner knows the proper methods for removing soot and smoke odor and has the required equipment.

## **Fire Damage Don'ts**

- **Don't use electrical appliances, including TVs, stereos and ceiling fans until they have been properly cleaned and checked.**
- **Don't eat canned goods or packaged foods.** These items may have become contaminated, due to intense heat, smoke and soot exposure.
- **Don't toss out damaged goods immediately.** Make sure to take a full inventory first that includes all items before discarding anything.
- **Don't wash surfaces, including walls and ceilings, before first getting advice from a professional, who knows the proper methods for removing soot.**
- **Don't send smoke-damaged articles to a regular dry-cleaner.** The wrong cleaning methods on smoke-damaged clothing can worsen the smoke odor and make it more permanent.
- **Don't wait to hire a fire restoration company.** The longer you put off the cleaning and restoration process, the higher the costs and extent of damage to your home and property.

## **Fire Damage Restoration from Utah Flood Cleanup**

In addition to providing fire damage restoration services, Utah Flood Cleanup offers water damage repair and mold remediation services. ***We are an experienced damage restoration company and our restoration experts are certified by the IICRC.*** We will carry out a comprehensive damage restoration program that allows you to return safely to your property. Our solutions include [emergency board up](#), [cleaning for carpets and upholstery](#), [sewage cleanup](#), [air duct cleaning](#) and more.

For reliable and efficient cleanup and restoration assistance, [contact Utah Flood Cleanup](#). Call us at 801-876-5225 for a free phone consultation. We offer emergency assistance 24/7. ***We also offer a free inspection on water damage covered by insurance, affordable financing options and a 5-year guarantee on our work.*** Since 1992, we have been serving Ogden, Utah, and the surrounding areas.