

# FIRE LOSS:

Experiencing a fire loss can be a traumatic and overwhelming event. Here are the immediate steps to take following a fire:

1. **Ensure safety:** Prioritize your safety and the safety of others. If the fire is still active or there is a risk of re-ignition, evacuate the premises immediately and call emergency services (911) to report the fire.
2. **Wait for clearance:** Do not re-enter the property until the fire department declares it safe to do so. Fires can cause structural damage and other hazards, making the building unstable. Follow the instructions and guidance of the fire department or other authorities on when it is safe to return.
3. **Contact your insurance company:** Notify your insurance company as soon as possible about the fire loss. Provide them with the necessary information and follow their instructions for filing a claim. They will guide you through the process and inform you about the next steps.
4. **Document the damage:** Take photos or videos of the fire-damaged areas and your belongings. This documentation is crucial for insurance purposes and will help in assessing the extent of the loss. Make a detailed inventory of damaged items, including their approximate value and purchase dates if possible. This can be handled later by qualified professionals.
5. **Secure the property:** If the fire has caused significant damage and has left openings in the structure, consider boarding up or securing the property to prevent unauthorized access and further damage. Consult with professionals or your insurance company for guidance on securing the premises.
6. **Prevent further damage:** Take necessary steps to mitigate additional damage, such as covering exposed areas or boarding up broken windows. However, do not undertake any repairs or restoration work without consulting professionals, as improper actions can affect insurance coverage.
7. **Seek temporary accommodation:** If your home is uninhabitable due to fire damage, make arrangements for temporary accommodation. Reach out to family, friends, or local emergency assistance organizations for support. Your insurance company may also provide guidance or assistance in finding temporary housing.
8. **Gather important documents:** Collect essential documents like identification papers, insurance policies, medical records, and financial documents. Keep them in a safe and accessible place.
9. **Seek professional assistance:** Engage the services of Evolution Restoration. We specialize in fire cleanup and restoration. We have the expertise, equipment, and knowledge to assess the damage, clean up the property, and begin the restoration process.
10. **Take care of yourself and seek support:** Experiencing a fire loss can be emotionally and physically draining. Reach out to friends, family, or support groups to share your experience and seek emotional support. If needed, consider contacting professional counselors or therapists specializing in trauma recovery.

Remember, recovering from a fire loss takes time and patience. Take one step at a time, rely on professional expertise, and lean on your support network for assistance.