



WHAT TO DO AFTER A FIRE:

A GUIDE FOR HOMEOWNERS AND COMMERCIAL PROPERTY OWNERS

A fire can be a devastating experience. Here's what to do immediately and in the days following a fire to protect your property and begin the recovery process.



IMMEDIATE SAFETY

- **Ensure Safety First:**
 - Evacuate everyone from the premises immediately.
 - Do not re-enter until fire authorities declare it safe.
- **Call Emergency Services:**
 - Contact the fire department and emergency services.
- **Medical Attention:**
 - Seek medical attention for anyone injured.

- **Contact Your Insurance Company:**
 - Report the fire and begin the claims process.
- **Secure the Property:**
 - Prevent further damage from the elements or theft by boarding up windows and doors, if safe to do so.
- **Document the Damage:**
 - Take photos and videos of the damage for insurance purposes.
- **Inventory Losses:**
 - Begin creating a detailed list of damaged or destroyed items.



AFTER FIRE IS OUT



WORKING WITH PROFESSIONALS

- **Fire Restoration Specialists:**
 - Engage a professional fire restoration company like Forge Restoration to assess the damage, mitigate further loss, and begin the restoration process. Look for companies with experience in smoke and soot removal as well as structural repairs.
- **Stay Informed:**
 - Communicate regularly with your insurance adjuster and restoration team.

- **Avoid Entering Damaged Areas:**
 - Until professionally assessed, the structure may be unsafe.
- **Food and Water:**
 - Discard any food or drinks that may have been exposed to heat, smoke, or water.
- **Soot and Smoke:**
 - Avoid touching or cleaning anything affected by soot or smoke, as improper cleaning can cause further damage.



IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS