The Dangers of Smoke and Fire

What to do in case of a fire?
Who is going to help us?
1. You are going to help yourself. We show you how.

2. The local volunteer fire department is going to come to your aid. That’s what they are there for.

Volunteer Fire Departments: Revolutionary Origins

- Volunteer fire departments in this country started after the failed revolutions of 1848/49. Many clubs, including sports clubs, were dissolved and outlawed, because the police suspected them.
- A lot of people fled the country; many of them to America.
- Some of the dissolved sports clubs reorganised as volunteer fire departments.
Fire Departments, Technical Relief Agency, and the various Rescue Services are NOT connected to the Police or the military.

- Deutsches Rotes Kreuz → Red Crescent
- Johanniter
- Malteser (only by name related to the Knights of Malta)
- Arbeiter-Samariter Bund (Worker Samaritans)
Rescue organisations in Germany are predominantly staffed by volunteers.

- So there are people in this country who set fire to refugee housing.
- And then there’s us.
• Volunteer Firefighters help – and get yelled at and threatened by the fascist mob.
• We help anyway. It is what we believe in.

We help everybody regardless of nationality, race, gender, skin color, age, or creed.
So what can you do to prevent a fire?

Watch out for dangerous situations and for people acting dangerously –

Always use proper cooking equipment
Use a lid on pots and pans if available to prevent waste of energy and extra smoke.

Smoke! Open windows (NOT doors!)
Smoke Alarm Devices in the hallway are set off

- Working Principle of a Smoke Alarm Device

[Diagram of smoke alarm device with labels: Normalzustand, Rauch, Luftungseiler, Lichtstrahlen, Alarmlicht & Ton]
Don’t tamper with fire alarm systems!!
Do not leave anything flammable on the hot oven

"Chip-pan fire": A boilover
• 1 kg Frittierfett
  + 1 l Wasser;
• 2.4 sek.

• Don't smoke in bed
Don’t overload circuits

- Keep an eye on technical equipment
  - Battery-driven radios or CD-players
  - Older TV-sets
  - Dryers (clean out sieve)
  - Washing machines
  - (…)

22.03.2016
Many fires start with broken electrical appliances

- So what can you do in case of a fire?

Get out – and stay out!
Emergency number

Call 112
Don’t forget: You can do everything right

It is not that difficult -

What kind of sign is this?
Follow the escape route

Always close doors
Call for help on the open window

• Wait for the firefighters to do their job
Use (wet) pieces of clothing to block doors against smoke

• Don’t try to run or crawl through smoke-filled hallways or down staircases
• Know the escape signs
• Know your escape routes
  • Alternatives!
• Have an escape routine
  • Drill
    • Help moving otherwise impaired people

Evacuation

We get you if you can’t get out by yourself
Some fires...
... really fast.

Gibt's nur im Film!
There is a lot you can do for your own security:

- Do not leave candles, burning cigarettes, or any kind of open fire
- Switch OFF electrical appliances (stand-by!)
- Keep smoke alarm devices in order
- and so on...
You can even do some things to help the VFD:

- Join us.
- Okay, learn German and THEN join us.
- NEVER tamper with smoke alarm devices.
- Take care of water hydrants.

**Wait: Hydrants**
Thank you for your attention -- and stay safe!
Disaster Training

- Age / Maturity
  - The feeling of threat is subjective.
    - Choose appropriate amount of empathy
- Degree of shock:
  - Speechlessness
  - Disorientation
  - Hyperventilation
    - Diligence and care

Frightened & Injured people
Starting fire