

Light Search & Rescue Checklist

Pre-plan Search

1. Organize a team

- _____ Teams should be of at least 4 people each (2 out and 2 in). Give each team an identity.
- _____ Have proper safety equipment and tools (helmet, gloves, goggles, mask, boots, extinguisher, shut off tool, pry tool, clipboard, marking pens)
- _____ Decide on duties (leader, safety, communications, medical, etc)
- _____ Decide on the time limit for search and signals (radios, whistles, horns, or lights)
- _____ Have a plan and set priorities for the search (greatest good for the greatest number)

2. Gathering Information

- _____ Determine how many occupants are in the structure and/or missing.
- _____ Signs of exterior/interior structural damage?
- _____ Circle the structure to identify/eliminate potential hazards and all points of safe entry and/or exit? (odors, gas leaks, electrical, chimney, glass, unstable objects, dust/smoke)
- _____ Unique characteristics of the structure? (brick, steel, wood; shape, usage)

3. Classify the building

- _____ Light damage: (Superficial or cosmetic damage, broken windows, fallen plaster; jumbled contents) OK to enter
- _____ Medium damage: (Questionable structural stability; fractures, tilting, foundation movement) Enter for brief time
- _____ Heavy damage: (Obvious structural instability; partial or total wall collapse, ceiling failures) Do not enter
- _____ Mark an "X" with a box around it and write "NOT SEARCHED"

Search

1. Enter building

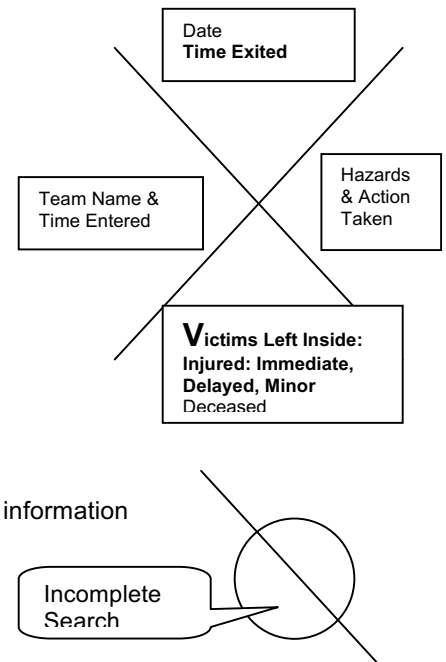
- _____ Mark half of "X" on the door or near the entry
- _____ Use forcible entry if necessary
- _____ Call out "Is anyone there?" and listen for a response
- _____ Set an illumination source in the entrance as a reference point
- _____ Prop the door open

2. Start search pattern

- _____ Right handed or left-handed search pattern
- _____ Stay together and along walls searching from top to bottom
- _____ Moving slowly while testing the floor with each step
- _____ Continually calling out and listening for responses or movement
- _____ Looking over, under, around, and through the entire room
- _____ Complete "X" immediately upon leaving the building, documenting information

3. Things to consider while searching

- _____ Expect aftershocks, fire, or other hazards
- _____ Always look for the closest way out
- _____ Your safety is number one, don't become a victim
- _____ Check elevators, closets, garages, stairways and restrooms



Rescue/Cribbing (after all non-trapped people have been removed)

- _____ Assemble cribbing team (Leader, Safety, Medical, Suppliers, Lifters)
- _____ Assemble supplies (cribbing materials, pry bars, first aid kit)
- _____ Stabilize object (constant communication with team and patient)
- _____ Lift object (constant communication with team and patient)
- _____ Remove patient
- _____ Remove cribbing materials

