

FIRE SAFETY - How to make your house a safe home

Fit a smoke alarm and check it regularly

You are twice as likely to die in a fire in households without a working smoke alarm. Check smoke alarm batteries once a week. Test your smoke alarm by pressing the button and holding it until the alarm sounds, if your alarm starts to "beep" regularly, the battery is running out, replace the battery straight away. More than 70 people are killed every year because their smoke alarm didn't work.



Make a fire action plan so that everyone in your house knows how to escape in the event of fire

Overall being trapped in some way causes 45% of deaths in household fires. On average, a quarter of all fatalities in household fires occur because people are trapped while asleep. You are almost three times more likely to be killed in a fire that starts in the night. Keep your exits clear and keep door and window keys handy. Each year, around half of all accidental dwelling fire fatalities occur in the room where the fire first started.

Take care when cooking with hot oil and think about using thermostatically controlled deep fat fryers

Chip pan fires account for 20% of all accidental household fires.



Never leave lit candles unattended

Ensure cigarettes are stubbed out and disposed of carefully

Households with a resident smoker are nearly one and a half times more likely to have a fire than non-smoking homes. Fires started by cigarettes account for one third of all fatal fires in the home and kill more people than any other kind of fire.

Never smoke in bed

Keep matches and lighters away from children

Keep clothing away from heating appliances



Take care in the kitchen

According to latest figures over 67% of all accidental household fires occurred in the kitchen; 10% occurred in the bedroom and a further 10% occurred in the living or dining room.

Take special care when you are tired or when you've been drinking.

Half of all deaths in domestic fires happen between 10pm and 8am.

In The Event Of A Fire That You Cannot Control.

- Close the door of the room where the fire is located. This will help to contain the fire, and prevent the spread of poisonous smoke.
- Warn the other people in the house and leave quickly. Do not stop to collect anything.
- Remember your escape route can be cut off very quickly.
- If your exit is cut off, close the door of your room and seal it with either a blanket or rug to prevent the fire or the smoke spreading.
- Call for help from a window.
- Don't go back into your home for any reason.

CALL THE FIRE BRIGADE ON 999