

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



WWW.GOV.UK/FIREKILLS

Fire safety advice

With Halloween, Diwali and Bonfire Night approaching, make sure you celebrate and have fun safely.

Did you know that:

- Three fires a day are started by candles.
- You're four times more likely to die in a fire if you don't have a smoke alarm that works.
- Around half of home fires are started by cooking accidents.
- Every five days someone dies from a fire caused by a cigarette.

See overleaf for advice on keeping your home safe from fire.

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Fire kills - stay safe in your home

Get a smoke alarm - and make sure it works

Smoke alarms are cheap and easy to install - fit one on every level of your home. Your local Fire & Rescue Service will be happy to give you advice on which make and model to choose.

Never disconnect or take the batteries out of your smoke alarm if it goes off by mistake. Test the batteries every week and change them every year.

21 people die each year because the battery in their smoke alarm was flat or missing at the time of the fire.

Different kinds of smoke alarms are available for those who are Deaf or visually impaired. Contact Action on Hearing Loss on 0808 808 0123 / textphone 0808 808 9000 or the RNIB on 0303 123 9999 for more information.

Plan an escape route and make sure everyone in your house knows how to escape.

Take the following precautions:

- Take care with loose clothing, tea towels and cloths when cooking on the hob. Make sure saucepan handles don't stick out.
- Never leave cooking unattended. Keep cookers and grills clean and free from grease and debris.
- Keep electrical appliances clean and in good working order. Unplug appliances when you're not using them and before you go to bed.
- Don't overload extension leads or adaptors. Check how many amps they can take.
- Never use portable heaters for drying clothes.
- Never smoke in bed, and always use a proper ashtray - not a wastepaper basket.
- Keep matches and lighters out of children's reach and keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- Put candles out when you leave the room, and at night when you go to bed.

Don't tackle fires yourself. Get out, stay out and call 999.

For more advice, including for outdoor occasions, visit www.gov.uk/firekills

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