

FIRE - KEEP YOUR HOME SAFE

Alarms

Fit at least one smoke alarm on every level of your home and test all your alarms monthly.

Smoking

It is safer not to smoke. Try to smoke outside and make sure cigarettes are put right out. Never smoke in bed, or anywhere else if you think you might fall asleep. Do not leave a lit cigarette or pipe unattended. Use proper ashtrays and never throw hot ash into the bin. Keep matches and lighters well out of the reach of children.

Candles

Candles, tea lights and incense burners should only be placed in stable, heat-resistant holders. Away from flammable materials

Heating and electrics

Sit at least one metre away from heaters. Keep heaters well away from anything that can catch alight. Don't overload electrical sockets.

TAKE EXTRA CARE IN THE KITCHEN

Fit a heat alarm in the kitchen, they will not be set off by cooking fumes. Never leave pans unattended when cooking. Don't cook if you are tired, have been drinking alcohol or taking medication that might make you drowsy. If the pan does catch fire: Don't tackle the fire yourself or try to move the pan. Never throw water onto it as this can create a fireball. If you can do so safely – turn off the heat.

Leave the room and close the door. Shout to warn others to get out, stay out and call 999.

KNOW WHAT TO DO IN A FIRE

Plan your escape

Make an escape plan and practise it regularly to make sure everyone knows how to get out safely.

The best route is the normal way in and out of your home. Plan a second route in case the first one is blocked.

Never store anything in communal areas including balconies. Items can block your escape route and be a fire risk.

Always keep door and window keys where everyone you live with can find them.

ESCAPING FROM A HOME FIRE

If any of your smoke alarms go off when you are asleep, follow your escape plan, get out and call 999. Shout 'FIRE' to warn others and don't stop to pick up valuables.

Check closed doors with the back of your hand. Do not open the door if it feels warm – the fire may be on the other side.

Smoke can kill, get down as low as possible where the air will be clearer.

If your escape is blocked by fire it may be safer to stay put until the fire brigade arrives. Close the door and use soft materials to block any gaps to stop the smoke. If you have a phone call 999, go to a window, shout "HELP, FIRE" and wait to be rescued.

STAY SAFE WHEN YOU GO TO BED

Close downstairs doors at night to stop fire from spreading

Turn off and unplug electrical appliances, unless they are designed to be left on - like the freezer

Check your cooker is turned off

Don't leave your washing machine or tumble dryer on

Turn heaters off and put up fireguards

Put candles and cigarettes out properly

Keep door and window keys accessible

Make sure all exits are kept clear



In the event of a fire, get out, stay out and call 999. For further fire safety information contact your local fire and rescue service (not 999).

Email community.firesafety@hantsfire.gov.uk

Web hantsfire.gov.uk/yoursafety

Call service administration on 02380 626751 weekdays 9am - 5pm

Or visit www.facebook.com/firekills