

takeextracare

safeguard you, your family and your home



West Yorkshire
Fire & Rescue Service



Fit a smoke alarm

- Alarms are available cheaply from DIY stores and most supermarkets. Look out for one that carries the British Standard Kitemark™.
- Fit an alarm on every level of your home.
- Test alarms weekly and replace the battery or the alarm immediately when it stops working.

In the kitchen

- Don't leave children alone in the kitchen when cooking.
- Take extra care if you are wearing loose clothing when cooking as it can easily catch fire.
- Keep tea towels and cloths away from the cooker and hob.
- Keep electricals away from water.
- A build-up of fat and grease can ignite a fire – keep ovens, hobs and grills clean.
- Don't put anything metal in the microwave.
- Be careful when cooking with hot oil.
- If you are cooking chips, use a thermostat controlled deep fat fryer and ensure it is only a third full of oil.
- Never throw water on a deep fat fryer if it catches fire.
- If you have to leave the kitchen take pans off the heat and switch the hob off.
- Avoid cooking if you have been drinking alcohol.

Electrical appliances

- Don't overload sockets.
- Always check you use the right fuse to prevent overheating.
- Make sure appliances have a British or European safety mark.
- Do not use any old appliances with frayed cables.
- Switch off and unplug appliances when not in use, such as kettles, washing machines and microwaves.
- Unless your electric blanket has a thermostat control for safe all-night use, remember to switch it off before getting into bed. And never buy second-hand electric blankets.
- Keep portable heaters away from washing and furniture. Switch them off before going to bed.
- Do not store items that catch fire easily in or around the electric mains, near fuse boxes, in ovens or on top of gas hobs.

Smoking

- Always fully extinguish cigarettes and dispose of them carefully.
- Never smoke in bed.
- Use a proper ashtray. Never use a wastepaper basket as an ashtray.
- Take extra care if smoking when tired, taking drugs or if you've been drinking.
- Keep cigarettes and matches away from children.

For more home fire safety advice visit www.westyorksfire.gov.uk





Candles

- Always use proper holders.
- Keep candles away from materials which may catch fire.
- Never place candles on a plastic bath or on top of the TV.
- Extinguish candles when you leave the room.
- Keep candles out of the reach of children and pets.
- Do not place lighted candles where they can be knocked over.

Road safety

- Don't drink and drive.
- Check your speed and slow down.
- Always wear your seatbelt.
- Minimise distractions such as loud music, mobile phones and ensure any passengers understand that you need to concentrate.
- Keep loose items in the boot of your car rather than the passenger seat or back seats.
- Keep your car in good working condition.

In the event of fire
Get out. Stay out. Call 999.

Escape plan

- Be prepared by making an escape plan in the event of fire in your home.
- Make sure everyone knows how to escape.
- Plan a second escape route if the first is blocked.
- Review the plan if the layout of your house changes.
- Keep door and window keys where everyone can find them.

Escape from high level

- Avoid using lifts.
- Make sure everyone knows how to raise the alarm and can locate the escape routes.
- You still need a smoke alarm for your own home, even if there is a warning system in the block.

Blocked escape routes

- If you can't get out, get everyone in to one room, ideally with a window and phone.
- Put bedding, towels or clothes along the bottom of the door to block out the smoke.
- Phone 999 and tell the person you speak to where you are in the house.
- Call for help through the window.
- Stay near the window for oxygen and to help the firefighters to see you.

If your clothes catch fire

- Don't run around.
- Lie down and roll around to stop fire from spreading.
- Smother the flames with a heavy material, like a coat or blanket.
- Remember – stop, drop and roll.

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