

Fire safety in your home.

Protect your family - protect your life.



Government of Western Australia
Department of Fire & Emergency Services

DFES
Department of Fire &
Emergency Services



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A fire in your home can be devastating. It may even cause the death of you or a loved one. It can take seconds for a fire to take hold. Most home fires are preventable.

You can reduce your risk of a fire and improve your safety by taking these steps.

dial 000



Only working smoke alarms save lives.

If yours is working properly it can warn you and your family if there's a fire in your home.

Follow these steps to make sure your smoke alarm is working:

- Test your smoke alarm by holding down the test button until you hear a loud alert tone, then release. We suggest you test your smoke alarms once a month
- Replace your batteries every year. (Mains powered smoke alarms have back-up batteries that may need replacing. Check the manufacturer's instructions)
- Replace your smoke alarm every 10 years.

Mains powered smoke alarms are required in all homes.

- Newly built or renovated since 1 July 1997
- Sold after 1 October 2009
- Made available for rent or hire.



Emergency 000

Know how to get out of your house.

If a fire starts in your home, everybody needs to get out as quickly as possible.

Spend a few minutes with your family and draw up an escape plan.

Your plan should include:

- More than one way out of every room. (You could get out through a window if it is too dangerous to go through the door)
- A safe and easy escape route for young children, elders and sick family members
- An escape route for pets
- A safe meeting place for everyone outside (such as the letter box).

When there is a fire:

- Go to your safe place
- Do not go back inside
- Ring 000 (triple zero).



dial 000

Keep it a metre from the heater.

Home heating is a major cause of house fires in winter.

- When the heater is on, make sure anything that can catch on fire is at least a metre away
- Never leave children and pets alone near heaters
- Always turn off a heater and an electric blanket before going to sleep.

dial 0000



Be safe with open fires.

- Keep your fire just big enough for cooking and keeping warm
- Never leave children alone near fires, not even for a minute
- Never throw petrol or other liquids that burn on to a fire
- Put your fire out properly with water not dirt, even if going for a short walk or swim
- Put your fire out at night before going to sleep. Many children are burnt by fires the morning after by hot ashes and embers
- Keep a bucket of water close by.



dial 000

Candles, matches and cigarette lighters - these are not toys!

- Always put lighters and matches in places where children cannot reach them
- Teach your children that playing with lighters and matches is dangerous
- Blow out candles before leaving the room or going to sleep
- Keep candles away from curtains and blinds.

dial 000



Be safe in the kitchen.

Lots of kitchen fires start when people leave cooking on the stove and go to do something else. Always watch your cooking and if you have to leave the room, turn off your stove.

If oil or fat does catch alight when cooking:

- Turn off the stove if it is safe to do so
- Cover the fire with a lid, wooden chopping board or fire blanket
- Never move the flaming pot or pan, as this will spread the fire quickly and you may get burnt
- Never throw water on a fat fire. This will cause the oil to explode and the fire to spread.

If you cannot put the fire out, phone 000 (Triple Zero) and put your escape plan into action.



dial 000

Don't go up in smoke.

Many house fires start from smoking.

- Do not smoke in bed, it is easy to go to sleep while smoking
- Never leave a cigarette burning if you walk away
- Make sure your cigarette butt is out before throwing it in the bin
- Keep matches and cigarette lighters away from children
- Be careful when smoking and drinking alcohol as you are at greater risk of falling asleep.



dial 000



Special thanks to:

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