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# HOW TO PREVENT A FIRE IN YOUR HOME

- A working smoke alarm could save you in a fire
- Most fires start when people are cooking
- Faulty electrics cause about 4,000 fires in the home each year
- Check your smoke alarms regularly and change batteries when detector beeps

## COOK SAFELY

- Do not leave the kitchen whilst cooking
- Avoid cooking whilst when under the influence
- Keep tea towels away from the cooker
- Spark devices are safer than matches or lighters
- Double check the cooker is off when you have finished cooking
- Keep electrics (leads and appliances) away from water
- Do not put anything metal in the microwave
- Keep the oven, hob, and grill clean
- Take care when cooking with hot oil







### OVERLOADING PLUGS

- Do not put too many plugs into a single socket. One plug in each socket is best
- NEVER run an extension from another extension
- Check for broken plugs and wires, hot plugs and plugs with dark marks
- Look for wires that are loose or broken, if you find any, take the plugs out of the socket
- Unplug mobile phones when fully charged and avoid overcharging overnight or under a pillow or duvet

## SMOKING

- Do not smoke in bed
- Use a proper ashtray that cannot tip over and is made of a material that will not burn
- Do not leave a lit cigarette, cigar or pipe lying around. They can easily fall over and start a fire
- Take extra care if you smoke when you are tired, taking prescription drugs, or if you have been drinking. You might fall asleep and set your bed or sofa on fire
- Unplug e-cigarettes when fully charged and ensure you are using the correct charger. Avoid charging overnight



# CANDLES

- Do not leave candles unattended and extinguish when leaving the room
- Children and pets should not be left alone with lit candles or boxes of matches or lighters
- Consider using LED or batteryoperated candles
- Keep matches and lighters out of reach of children





#### Plan an escape route

Have a plan with all household members, always keep evacuation route clear. If your smoke alarm goes off, GET OUT STAY OUT. Practice this

#### If your clothes are on fire remember: STOP - DROP - AND ROLL

- Ensure that your children know to call out "FIRE, FIRE, WAKE UP"
- Think of a second route in case the first one is blocked
- Review your plan if the layout of your home changes
- Keep your mobile phone near to you

## What if you cannot get out the house?

Go into one room, preferably one with a window to the street or roof. Then phone 999 and say which room you are in. The fire and rescue service will tell you what to do

### Emergency Exit Stairs

If you are high up, do not use the lifts. If you can, go down the stairs

## **Bedtime checklist**

A lot of fires start at night. Carry out these checks before going to bed

- Close all the inside doors. Closed doors slow down a fire
- Unplug things that use electricity
- But not things like fridges and freezers
- Check the cooker is off
- Do not leave the washing machine or tumble dryer on at night
- Turn off heaters
- Put a fireguard around the fireplace
- Check the doors to the outside are clear
- Leave keys where everyone can find them

For advice specific to you and your home, visit:

www.nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk/fire-safety or

www.ohfsc.co.uk for further fire information