



Checklist for... preventing fires at home

Being aware of the most likely cause of fires in the home can help prevent them. This checklist will help you think about the safety of your own home. It covers the common causes of fire, so take a moment to review the steps and prevent a fire at home.

Safety at home: cooking



- Pans are never left unattended
- Thermostatically-controlled deep fat fryer is used instead of a chip pan
- Tea towels and other flammable materials are kept away from cookers

Safety at home: electrics



- Phones, tablets and laptops are not charged on a bed or other soft furnishings
- Devices are not charged next to the bed when you're sleeping
- Chargers are always bought from reputable retailers

Safety at home: heating



- Clothes are not dried over fires or portable heaters
- Curtains and soft furnishings are kept at least one metre from fires
- Electric, gas and solid-fuel fires are well guarded
- Portable fan or electric heaters are switched off when leaving the house or going to bed

Safety at home: smoking & candles



- All smokers' materials are discarded carefully
- No smoking in bed as you may fall asleep before it is extinguished
- Candles are kept away from flammable items and blown out when leaving the room

- Chargers are only used with the products they're designed for
- Plug sockets are not overloaded (including by connecting multiple extension leads to each other)
- Cables are in visibly good condition

- Irons, hair straighteners and curlers are switched off and put away straight after use
- Electric blankets are in good condition
- Wiring (the "electrics") is checked at least once every five years by an approved contractor

Date of last check

Now you've taken action to prevent a fire at home, are you prepared in case a fire does happen?

Early warning: smoke alarms

- Working smoke alarm on at least every level of the property, preferably those that are hard-wired or have a 10-year battery life
- Heat detector fitted in the kitchen
- Alarms tested every week

Know your escape plan

- Fire escape plan practised with every member of the household
- Exit routes are kept clear and free of obstruction

If there's a fire: Get out, stay out and **call 999** for the fire service



For more home safety tips, visit www.rospa.com/falls

