



# FIRE SAFETY



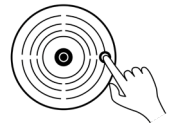
# How to Prevent a Fire

**Taking fire prevention steps within your home is the best way to avoid a fire. Here are a few steps you can take to increase the safety in your home:**

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## Smoke Alarms

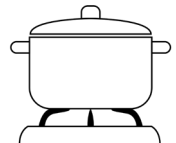
- Please test your smoke alarm at least once a month using the test button to make sure that it works
- The communal fire alarms will be tested by Denbigh Methodist Housing Association
- If your smoke alarm sounds, please leave your home as soon as possible by the safest route
- Do not cover or remove your smoke alarm



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## Cooking

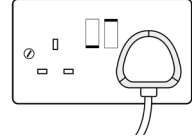
- Do not leave your cooking unattended
- Turn off all cooking appliances when not in use
- Ensure that oven gloves, cloths, tea towels and other items are kept away from hobs
- Do not use toasters under wall mounted units and keep them away from flammable materials



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## Electrical equipment

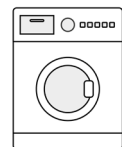
- Do not use any damaged equipment or damaged cables
- Any damaged equipment or damaged cables should be repaired by a professional
- Do not overload extension leads
- When using extension leads, do not plug in more than one powerful appliance (such as a kettle or heater)
- Keep flammable materials away from cables and sockets
- Ensure that any portable heaters are kept away from furniture, clothing, bedding and other flammable materials



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## White goods

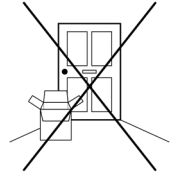
- White goods include the washing machine, fridge, freezer, dishwasher, tumble dryer and cooker
- Ensure that all your white goods are safe to use and not subject to a product recall
- You can check for product recalls on the government website: [productrecallcampaign.gov.uk](https://www.productrecallcampaign.gov.uk)
- If any of your white goods are faulty, seek a repair or replacement from the manufacturer.



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## Housekeeping

- Ensure that the route to your front door is kept clear so that you can escape in an emergency
- Do not leave mirrors by windows as they can focus sunlight and cause a fire to start
- Never leave items in the common areas as they could be an obstruction or trip hazard or even block an escape route. Such items could also be a fire hazard if they are flammable
- Please report any items left in the common areas to us so that we can ensure that they are removed
- Please report overflowing communal bins or chutes that may be causing a fire hazard



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## Smoking

- Ensure that you have a suitable ashtray that will not tip over, and empty it regularly
- Ensure that you fully extinguish your cigarette in the ashtray
- Avoid smoking in bed
- Do not dispose of your cigarette off your balcony or out of a window
- Smoking is prohibited in all common areas



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## Candles and incense sticks

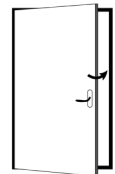
- Never leave candles burning unattended
- Ensure that all candles or incense sticks are kept away from curtains, furniture, clothing, or any other flammable materials
- Ensure that all candles and incense sticks are fully extinguished after use.
- Use a tray or holder and place it on a non-flammable surface.
- Ideally use battery powered candles or oil burners instead of flame candles



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## Fire doors

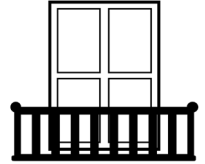
- All doors within your flat will provide a level of fire protection.
- Please close the doors within your home at night (particularly your living room and kitchen doors). Closed doors will hold a fire back and provide you with time to escape.
- Do not drill through any of your doors or the door frame as this will affect its ability to hold back a fire or smoke
- If a fire occurs, close doors behind you when you escape - only if it is safe to do so.



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## Balconies

- The use of barbeques on your balcony is not permitted
- Do not store flammable items on your balcony and avoid using soft furnishings on any of the furniture on your balcony
- If you are smoking on your balcony, please take extra care and do not dispose of cigarettes over the edge of the balcony
- Avoid storing mirrors or bottles on your balcony as they can focus sunlight and cause fires to start



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## Arson

- Please report any antisocial behaviour to us
- Be aware of anyone following you through a communal entrance door without using a key or fob
- Please contact the police and/or fire brigade in an emergency



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# Fire Safety Checks

**In 2022, the London Fire brigade attended 1985 fires between 9pm and 9am. They have recommended some simple checks to complete before you go to bed that will reduce the risk of a fire.**



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## The firefighter's bedtime checklist

- Close all your internal doors to prevent smoke spreading if a fire starts
  - Turn off and unplug electrical appliances unless they are designed to be left on (such as your fridge freezer)
  - Don't leave the washing machine, tumble dryer or dishwasher running overnight and unattended
  - Don't leave mobile phones, tablets or e-cigarettes charging overnight
  - Check that your hob and oven switches are all off
  - Turn heaters off, rake out fires and put a fire guard in place
  - Put candles, incense sticks and oil burners out and never leave them burning when you are asleep
  - Make sure cigarettes are completely out – wet them to be sure and never smoke in bed
  - Make sure escape routes are clear of anything that may slow your escape down
  - Keep door and window keys where everyone you live with can find them
  - If you or anyone else in the home has mobility issues, ensure mobility aids and methods of calling for help (like emergency pendants) are close to hand in case help is needed to assist with an escape
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# Further Information

For further information, please visit the following websites:

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**Kensington and Chelsea Council:**

<https://www.rbkc.gov.uk/housing/safety-your-community-home/fire-safety>

**London Fire Brigade:**

<https://www.london-fire.gov.uk/safety/the-home/>

**UK Government:**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/fire-safety-guidance>

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## Contact Us



**Write to us:**

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