



Fire Safety

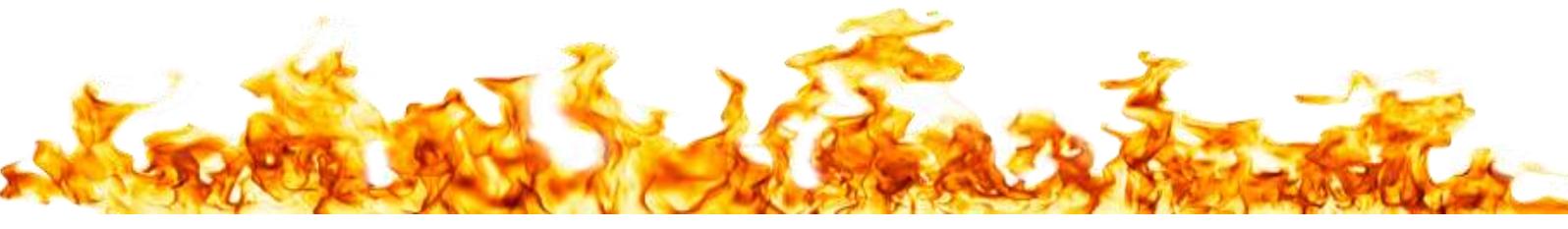


Most people believe fire won't affect them, but the reality is very different.

There are many dangers around the home. Most house fires start by accident and most accidents can be prevented. Make fire safety part of your regular housekeeping routine!

Below are some fire safety tips which we have prepared to help you keep your family and homes safe from fire:

- ▶ **Alcohol** makes us less aware of risks. If you are drinking, be careful about smoking, and never smoke in bed. Also, try and keep snacks to foods that do not have to be cooked.
- ▶ **Regularly Check Your Smoke Alarm** It is your responsibility to check this every week by pushing the Test button and to notify Loreburn's Repairs Service immediately on 01387 271221 if you find this is not working.
- ▶ **Help Your Neighbours** If you have an elderly neighbour or relative who might be at risk, why not check with them whether they have checked their Smoke Alarm or if you can do it for them.
- ▶ **Prepare A Fire Escape Plan** How would you get everyone out at night in reduced light and smoky conditions? How would you get the kids out? Tell everyone in your household what the plan is and keep escape routes free from clutter. Never leave obstacles in communal areas.
- ▶ **Be Safe With Cigarettes** Make sure cigarettes are properly stubbed out and then disposed of carefully, never smoke in bed, use an ashtray and keep matches and lighters out of children's reach.
- ▶ **Safety With Candles** Never leave burning candles in a room that nobody is in, and never leave children alone with candles.
- ▶ **Be Safe In The Kitchen** Make sure saucepan handles do not stick out over the hob as these can be easily knocked over or pulled down by small children. Turn off appliances not in use, use a thermostat controlled fryer and never fill it more than 1/3 full of oil. **NEVER** pour water over a burning chip pan; throw a damp towel over the pan and turn off the heat. Wait 30 minutes to let the pan cool down.



- 
- ▶ **Safety With Electrics** Make sure all appliances are fitted with the correctly rated fuse, try to keep to one plug per socket and switch off and unplug electrical appliances that are not designed to be left on.
 - ▶ Report any dangerous or loose wiring to Loreburn's Repairs Service on 01387 271221

What If There Is A Fire?

- ▶ If you are in a large sheltered development and there is a fire in one of the other properties, provided you are far enough away from the fire, the Fire Service would recommend that you stay in your property and wait for the Fire Service to attend.
- ▶ For all other properties, get out of the house and stay out.
- ▶ Do not waste time collecting valuables. No possession is as important as a life.
- ▶ Use the stairs if in a flat. Never use the lift if there is a fire anywhere in the building.
- ▶ Make sure your neighbours know about the fire. Bang on their doors on the way out.
- ▶ Call the Fire Service on 999 as soon as you are clear of the building.
- ▶ Never go back into the house until the Fire Service say it's safe to do so.

What If Your Escape Is Blocked?

- ▶ Get everyone into one room.
- ▶ If there is a lot of smoke, crawl on the floor - the air will be clearer there.
- ▶ Do not open any doors that feel warm.
- ▶ Put cushions, bedding or blankets around the bottom of doors to keep the smoke out.
- ▶ If you have a phone in the room with you, use it to phone the Fire Service on 999.
- ▶ If you do not have a phone in the room, open a window and shout until someone phones the Fire Service.
- ▶ Stay at the open window to get fresh air.
- ▶ If you are on the ground floor or first floor you may be able to escape through the window. Use pillows or cushions and then lower yourself from the window. Only attempt this as a last resort.
- ▶ If you are stuck on a higher floor, lean out the window to get fresh air until the Fire Brigade arrives. **You should never jump**

Visit www.firescotland.gov.uk for some more practical fire safety information.



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
Working together for a safer Scotland

