

Fire

Most fires start accidentally. Whether originating at home or as a result of a wildfire, the consequences of fire can be devastating. Fires can cause significant damage to property, businesses and infrastructure.

Taking the time to understand why fires start and what you can do to prevent them will help you keep you, others, and your property safe.

Who is most at risk?

Fire can affect anyone, but some people face a higher risk of being impacted by fire.

Those most at risk include older adults, those who live alone, people who smoke at home and people with physical mobility issues.

Remember

Get out, stay out, and call 999.



What can you do before, during and after?

Before

- ✓ Fit smoke alarms (at least one on each floor of your home) and test them regularly.
- ✓ Fit carbon monoxide alarms in areas of your home where there are any fuel-burning appliances.
- ✓ Have an escape route planned.
- ✓ Don't overload plug sockets and check for dangerous or loose wiring and turn off appliances when not in use.
- ✓ Don't leave food cooking unattended.
- ✓ Avoid open fires and barbecues in the countryside.
- ✓ Don't leave bottles or glass in woodlands or outside spaces, sunlight shining through glass can start a fire.
- ✓ Check if you are eligible for a home fire safety visit from your local Fire and Rescue Service.



During

- ✓ If you are in a building that is on fire, get out, stay out and call 999 immediately.
- ✓ Don't tackle fires yourself, leave it to the professionals.
- ✓ If there's smoke, keep low where the air is clearer while you make your way out. If you can, close doors behind you to stop the fire spreading.
- ✓ Alert others by shouting: 'HELP FIRE!'
- ✓ If your clothes are on fire – lie down and roll around to make it harder for the fire to spread.

After

- ✓ Only enter the property when you are told it is safe.
- ✓ If you feel unwell after the fire, seek medical attention.
- ✓ Take photos of the damage and contact your insurance provider and letting agent or landlord.
- ✓ If you can't stay at home, arrange for doors and windows to be boarded up, and find temporary accommodation until it's safe to return to your home.