



HOME FIRE SAFETY VISIT

We recommend that each floor of your home has a working smoke alarm fitted. These should be tested on a weekly basis and batteries replaced if necessary.

We provide smoke alarms completely free of charge. To arrange a free home fire safety visit from one of our technicians contact us now.

By phone, ask for the Home Fire Safety team on:



0300 303 0088

By email, follow the Home Fire Safety link on our website:



www.essex-fire.gov.uk



Essex County
Fire & Rescue Service

Our Values: Respect, Accountability, Openness and Involvement





SMOKE ALARMS

Smoke alarms save lives. They give vital warning at the first sign of fire, waking anyone asleep and giving everyone time to get safely out. Make sure you have a smoke alarm on each level of your home and make sure that you test those alarms regularly.



To arrange for a free home fire safety visit call us on 0300 303 0088.

ESCAPE ROUTES



When fire strikes, it is vital that you and your family know your escape route so you don't waste time. Every second counts in an emergency.

Prepare an escape route, make sure everyone knows it and practice your escape. Keep your escape route clear so there are no obstacles to slow you down. Make sure everyone in the house – including friends and family who may stay over – knows where all keys to doors and windows are kept.

KITCHEN



The kitchen is a flash point for fires in the home with more fires starting in the kitchen than anywhere else. Make sure that you do not let distraction become a deadly danger in the kitchen.



Never leave cooking unattended, never leave children alone in the kitchen and if you have to leave the room to answer the door or phone, turn off the cooker.

Keep tea towels and cloths away from the cooker and make sure that all electrical appliances are in good working order.

Essex County Fire & Rescue Service



Community Safety

Please also follow our fire safety tips below:

Smoke Alarms

- One on each floor of your property.
- Test and Hoover regularly.

Kitchen Safety

- Never leave your cooking unattended. Remember, fires start when your attention stops.
- Do not hang tea towels or cloths on or over the cooker.
- Keep the oven, hob and grill clean. A build-up of fat and bits of food can start a fire.
- Do not put anything metallic inside the microwave.
- Check the toaster is clean and well away from curtains.
- Do not cook if you're affected by alcohol or prescription drugs. If you've consumed alcohol, do not be tempted to cook with a chip pan.
- Turn saucepan handles so they don't stick out where they can be accidentally knocked, and aren't over another hot ring.

Electrical Safety

- Do not overload sockets; one plug per socket is the rule, especially if the appliance takes a lot of power (like a kettle), switch off and unplug whenever you can.
- An extension lead or adaptor will have a limit to how many amps it can take, so be careful not to overload them to reduce the risk of a fire.
- Do not leave appliances such as washing machines or dishwashers on at night.

Smoking Safety

- Never smoke in bed
- Use a proper ashtray, and ensure it cannot tip or burn.
- Do not smoke when tired, taking prescription drugs, or alcohol.
- Do not smoke whilst on Oxygen – follow the correct procedures.
- Electric cigarettes are to be treated as normal cigarettes but ensure you buy EU approved ones.

Candle Safety

- Ensure the candle is in a proper holder, away from materials which may catch fire.
- Ensure candles are extinguished, using a spoon or snuffer.
- Never leave burning candles unattended.

Bedtime Routine

- Turn off and unplug unessential electrical appliances.
- Do not leave washing machines / tumble driers / dishwashers on.
- Do not leave devices on charge overnight.
- Ensure candles / cigarettes are out properly.
- Close all internal doors and ensure your fire exits are clear.
- Make sure you know where your door and window keys are.

Ensure all occupants know what to do in the event of a fire

If you have concerns about your smoke alarms or would like a Home Safety Visit

Telephone 0300 3030088

- Amps are the amount of electricity used.
- Watts are the rate of consumption.
- Appliances that use up to 700 watts use a 3amp fuse.
- Appliances that use over 700 watts and up to 3000 watts use a 13amp fuse.
- 3000 watts is the maximum rating for wall sockets.
- Some older appliances use a 5 amp fuse but modern appliances are either 3amp or 13 amp.

Appliance	Amps Used	Watts Used
Laptop	0.5	65 -100
Mobile Phone Charger	0.5	10
Kettle	13	3000
Satellite TV Box	0.5	30
Printer	0.5	50
Radio	0.5	40
Radiator (Plug In)	8.5	2000
DVD Player	0.5	25
Telephone	0.5	10
Computer Screen	0.5	100
Desktop Computer	3	700
TV	0.5	150
Games Console	1	200
Washing Machine	10	2200
Toaster	9	2000
Tumble Dryer	11	2500
Dishwasher	10	2200
Iron	12.5	2800
Microwave	4.5	1000
Vacuum Cleaner	9	2000
Hairdryer	10	2200
Hair Straighteners	1	250

The appliances in green use a 3 amp plug and the ones in red use a 13 amp plug in modern appliances.

Know the limit!

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