# Chimney fire signs

- A chimney fire produces excessive smoke.
- Burning embers may fall down the chimney.
- Flames or sparks may be visible from the top of the chimney.
- A loud roaring noise may be audible.

**A chimney fire can turn into a housefire if not dealt with!**



# If a fire breaks out in your chimney or stove

- Get out.
- Call 112 or 999 without delay.
- Ask for the Fire Service.
- Speak calmly and clearly.
- Give your address and phone number. If you are calling on your mobile, say what county you are in.
- Only hang up when the operator tells you to.
- Stay out.


Rialtas na hÉireann
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# Chimney and Stove Fire Safety



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*Be on your guard*

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# Installation

- Installation of stoves must be done by a competent installer and in line with Technical Guidance Document J (Heat Producing Appliances) - Building Regulations.
- Sufficient space from combustible materials should be allowed around the stove and the flue.
- Ensure sufficient ventilation is provided for the stove. Never block up air vents/grilles.

# Maintenance

- Have your chimney cleaned regularly.
- Ensure stoves, boilers and flues are serviced regularly by a competent engineer.

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# Usage

Do not use flammable liquids to start a fire.

Never burn household waste.

Use only the recommended fuel for your stove. Creosote is a combustible, tarry by-product of burning wood or fossil fuels which can clog up chimneys and flues and cause fires – using seasoned wood reduces creosote build-up.

Use a spark guard to prevent sparks from open fires falling onto the floor.

Dispose of ashes before setting new fires by shovelling into a metal bucket with a metal lid. This should be placed outside away from buildings.

Ashes and embers can stay hot for days and ignite combustibles.



# Alarms

- A carbon monoxide alarm should be installed in all homes with fuel-burning appliances, including open fires. Install one in every room containing a stove or open fire.
- Remember these are no substitute for regular inspection and maintenance of stoves, vents, flues and chimneys.
- Smoke alarms should be fitted in every room (except the bathroom and garage) to fully protect your home. Fit a heat alarm in the kitchen.
- It is essential that smoke alarms are fitted in the hall and landing of every home.
- Ensure that alarms can be heard in bedrooms.
- Every alarm has an expiry date; exchange it as soon as it elapses.
- If you are deaf or hard of hearing, ensure that you have an appropriately adapted smoke alarm.
- Don’t borrow batteries from the smoke alarm.
- Test alarms regularly.

**A working Smoke Alarm can save your life!**

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