

## What To Do

- ✓ Plan for a safe place in case you cannot get out of the house.
- ✓ Make sure there is a phone or personal alert in the room to call for help.
- ✓ Make sure there is a window so you can either get out or call for help. Stay by the window if you can't get out.
- ✓ Close the door and seal the bottom with towels or blankets to stop smoke getting in.

## Call 999 or 112

- 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.
- Know your Eircode.
- Only hang up when the operator tells you to.

## Don't

- ✗ Go back into a burning house for any reason.
- ✗ Borrow batteries from the smoke alarm.
- ✗ Have mirrors over fire places with real fires. Your clothes might catch fire if you stand too close to look in the mirror.



On average **25 people** die each year in fires in Ireland.

Chimneys are the **number one** cause of fire in the home.



## Remember

Be careful when using portable, electric, gas or oil heaters

- Don't use heaters near furniture, curtains or beds.
- Don't leave heaters on when you go to bed.
- Take care if pets are near the heaters.
- Don't use heaters to dry clothes.



[www.fireireland.ie](http://www.fireireland.ie)



@FireSafetyIre



Fire Safety Ireland



Fire Safety Ireland

Telephone: +353 1 888 2000  
Email: [firesafety@housing.gov.ie](mailto:firesafety@housing.gov.ie)

Custom House, Dublin, D01 W6X0



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# Fire Safety In Flats And Apartments



# Prevent Fire

## Don't

- ✗ Smoke when you are in bed, tired or on medication.
- ✗ Leave the room when there are candles burning.
- ✗ Leave young children alone near an open fire or cooker.
- ✗ Leave matches and lighters where children can get them.
- ✗ Leave the room when a chip or frying pan is on even for a minute.
- ✗ Overload electric sockets – one socket, one plug.
- ✗ Use electric appliances that don't work.
- ✗ Run electrical appliances from a light socket.
- ✗ Use a heater or the cooker to dry clothes.
- ✗ Use petrol or paraffin to light a solid fuel stove.

## Make Sure To:

- ✓ Clean your chimney and service your heating system at least once a year.
- ✓ Use a sparkguard with open fires.
- ✓ Keep your gas cylinder outside, on solid ground and away from anything hot.
- ✓ Use a proper holder for candles.
- ✓ Keep a suitable fire extinguisher and fire blanket in the kitchen.
- ✓ Empty ashtrays before you go to bed. Run the contents under the tap before you bin them.
- ✓ Repair or replace faulty electrical appliances immediately.
- ✓ Do a fire safety check before you go to bed.
- ✓ Close all doors at night.

# Detect Fire

**Smoke alarms give you an early warning of a fire. 82% of fires that kill people are in homes with no working smoke alarm.**

- ✓ Your building should have a fire detection and alarm system. If there are no smoke alarms, ask your landlord to get some for the building.
- ✓ Fit at least one smoke alarm in your flat or apartment.
- ✓ Test your smoke alarms at least once a week.
- ✓ Change the batteries every year.
- ✓ Change the battery right away when you hear the warning beep.

# Escape

**Know what to do when you hear a smoke alarm so you and your family can get out safely.**

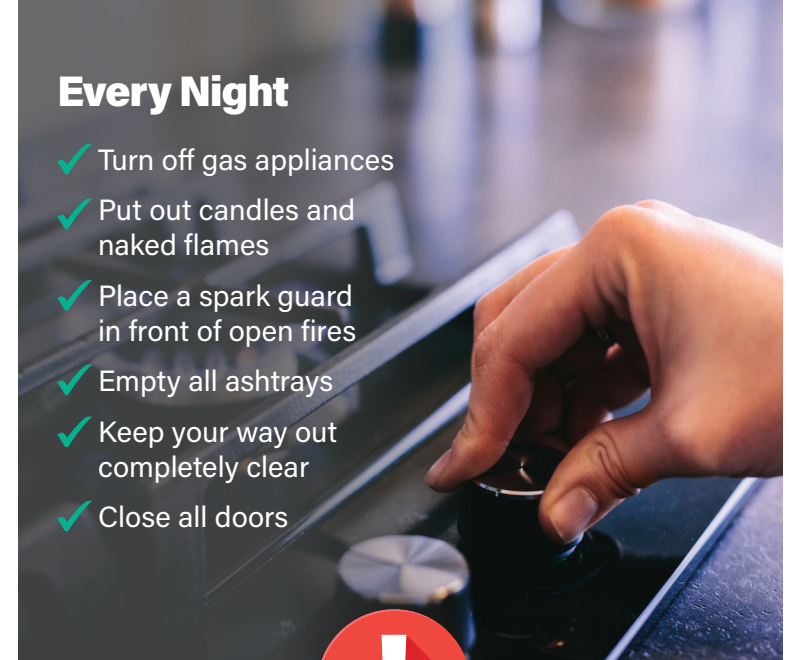
- ✓ Make an escape plan for your home and practise with everyone who lives with you. Plan at least two ways out in case one way is blocked by fire.
- ✓ Have a meeting point in a safe place outside the house.
- ✓ Keep your way out clear day and night.
- ✓ Keep the keys to doors and windows nearby.
- ✓ Know where the nearest phone is to call the fire service.
- ✓ If you hear the fire alarm, check doors with the back of your hand for heat before you open them. If they are warm, the way might be blocked by fire.

# Fire Safety Check

A **fire safety check** only takes a few minutes, but it could mean the difference between life and death. Make it part of your routine before you go to bed.

## Every Night

- ✓ Turn off gas appliances
- ✓ Put out candles and naked flames
- ✓ Place a spark guard in front of open fires
- ✓ Empty all ashtrays
- ✓ Keep your way out completely clear
- ✓ Close all doors



In as little as **3 minutes** you could die from smoke inhalation.

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

**fire safety**  
Be on your guard