

# FIRE SAFETY IN YOUR HOME

## SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES

- Get smoke alarms, put them up, check that they work.
- Make sure your smoke alarms have the Kitemark and 'Loss Prevention Certification Board' marks of approval.
- If you don't know which smoke alarms to choose ask at your local fire station for advice.
- Every month check your smoke alarm works.
- Press the button to check if it works, if there is no sound, change the batteries.
- If your smoke alarm goes off by accident, do not remove the batteries. Just wait for it to stop.
- Change your smoke alarm battery at least every year.
- Do not put your smoke alarm in a kitchen or bathroom.
- Put your smoke alarm in the hallway, and if you have more than one floor put one on each landing.
- If your alarm starts making a slow beep-beep-beep sound you need to change the batteries.

## IN THE KITCHEN

- Keep children out of the kitchen when you are cooking, they may knock over a pan and hurt themselves.
- If you are cooking with fat stay in the kitchen and watch the pan. Fat can easily catch fire. If the fat gets too hot and starts to smoke, turn the cooker off and leave it to cool. Never put water onto hot fat.

## USE PLUGS SAFELY

- If you put too many plugs in 1 socket it can start a fire. 1 plug in each socket is best.
- This is particularly important for things such as washing machines and electric fires that use a lot of electricity.
- Check for hot plugs or plugs with dark marks, and check for wires that are loose or broken. If you find any – take the plug out of the socket and get them looked at by an electrician.

## CIGARETTES

- Do not leave cigarettes alight. When you finish a cigarette make sure it is right out.

## CANDLES

- Put candles in holders. Do not leave them on their own. Keep candles away from things that may burn such as curtains or paper.

## **MAKE A PLAN TO GET OUT FAST**

- A smoke alarm will warn you about a fire. If your smoke alarm goes off, you must get out fast. Make a plan for getting out and tell your family about it. Everyone should know where the door and window keys are. Make sure things don't block windows and doors.

## **IN THE EVENT OF A FIRE**

- Get out fast. Do not try and put the fire out yourself.
- Phone 999 and ask for the fire and rescue service. Tell them where you live.
- If your clothes are on fire do not run about, it will make it worse. Lay down and roll around. The fire will get smaller. Use a coat of blanket to put out the rest of the fire.  
Remember: Stop, Drop and Roll.
- If you cannot get out, go into one room. Then ring 999 and tell them which room you are in, they will tell you what to do.
- If you are high up, do not use the lifts. Do not go out onto a balcony. If you can, go down the stairs.

## **CHECKS TO DO BEFORE YOU GO TO BED**

- ✓ Close all the inside doors. This will slow down a fire.
- ✓ Un-plug things that use electricity, but not fridges or freezers.
- ✓ Check the cooker is off.
- ✓ Do not leave the washer on overnight.
- ✓ Turn off heaters.
- ✓ Put a fireguard around a fireplace.
- ✓ Check the doors to the outside are clear of obstructions.
- ✓ Put keys where everyone can find them.
- ✓ Put candles and cigarettes out properly.