



PLAN A SAFE ESCAPE

Fitting a smoke alarm is the first crucial step to protecting yourself from fire. But what would you do if it went off during the night?

This section will help you make a plan ready for an emergency.

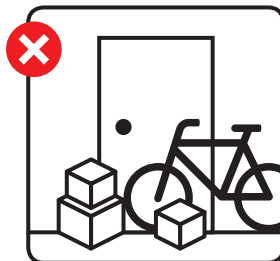
Be prepared by making a plan of escape

- Plan an escape route and make sure everyone knows how to escape.
- Make sure exits are kept clear.
- The best route is the normal way in and out of your home.
- Think of a second route in case the first one is blocked.
- Take a few minutes to practice your escape plan.
- Review your plan if the layout of your home changes.

Keep door and window keys where everyone can find them



Plan an escape route



What to do if there is a fire

**Don't tackle fires yourself.
Leave it to the professionals.**

- Keep calm and act quickly, get everyone out as soon as possible.
- Don't waste time investigating what's happened or rescuing valuables.
- If there's smoke, keep low where the air is clearer.
- Before you open a door check if it's warm. If it is, don't open it – fire is on the other side.
- Call 999 as soon as you're clear of the building. 999 calls are free.



**Get out, stay
out and call 999**

What to do if your clothes catch fire

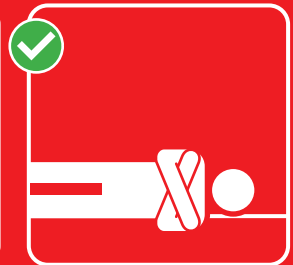
- Don't run around, you'll make the flames worse.
- Lie down and roll around. It makes it harder for the fire to spread.
- Smother the flames with a heavy material, like a coat or blanket.
- Remember, Stop, Drop and Roll!



STOP!



DROP!

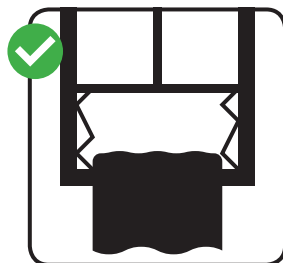
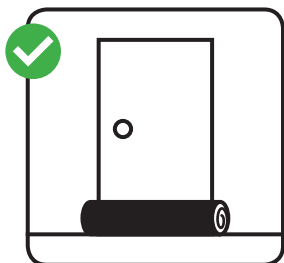


ROLL!

What to do if your escape is blocked

- If you can't get out, get everyone into one room, ideally with a window and a phone.
- Put bedding around the bottom of the door to block out the smoke, then open the window and call "HELP FIRE".
- If you're on the ground or first floor, you may be able to escape through a window.
- Use bedding to cushion your fall and lower yourself down carefully. Don't jump.

If you can't open the window break the glass in the bottom corner. Make jagged edges safe with a towel or blanket.



How to escape from a high level building

- Avoid using lifts and balconies if there is a fire.
- It is easy to get confused in smoke, so count how many doors you need to go through to reach the stairs.
- Check there is nothing in the corridors or stairways that could catch fire – like boxes or rubbish.
- Make sure doors to stairways are not locked.
- Make sure everyone in the building knows where the fire alarms are.
- You should still get a smoke alarm for your own home, even if there is a warning system in the block.

