

FIRE SAFETY IN APARTMENTS



There are a number of easy steps you can undertake to keep safe in your apartment:



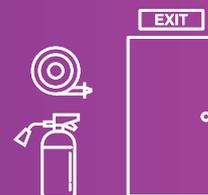
PLAN FOR A FIRE OR EMERGENCY

Your home escape plans will be a little different to the average single storey house. Think of the following tips before you have a fire in your apartment building:

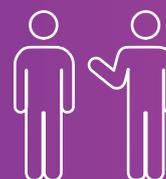
Familiarise yourself with your building's fire escape plan. If you cannot find one speak to your owner's corporation



Know where the fire exits, fire stairs and firefighting equipment are located. Only use firefighting equipment if you feel confident and safe in doing so



Make an escape plan with your family and other occupants. Include a back-up option in case your initial plan of escape is blocked. Also include an arranged safe meeting place outside the building

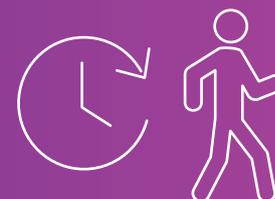


Inform any visitors of the escape plan

Test smoke alarms in your apartment monthly and clean regularly with a duster or vacuum cleaner



Smoke alarms provide a vital early warning and can allow extra time to escape if there is a fire in your apartment



In a life threatening emergency dial Triple Zero (000)



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RESPOND TO A FIRE OR EMERGENCY

If there is a fire in your apartment building:



Respond immediately when alerted to fire and evacuate to your safe meeting place



Do not wait and see. Do not spend time collecting items or to go investigate what is happening. **EVERY SECOND COUNTS**



Stay calm and get everyone out as quickly as possible



Get down low and stay out of the smoke



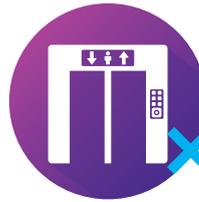
If safe to do so, **close all doors behind you as you leave**



If the fire is small and close to your location **consider trying to extinguish with the firefighting equipment provided**, but only if you feel confident and safe to do so



Call out to other people to alert them that there is a fire



Do not use lifts during a fire unless they are specifically labelled for evacuation. Use emergency exits or fire stairs



Get out and stay out. Never re-enter the building until advised by the fire fighters



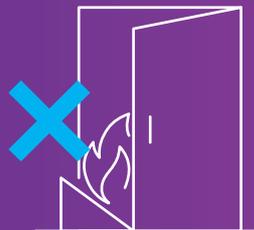
Call 000 (triple zero) from a mobile phone or a neighbour's phone. **Ask for FIRE**

MAINTAIN ESCAPE ROUTES AND FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT

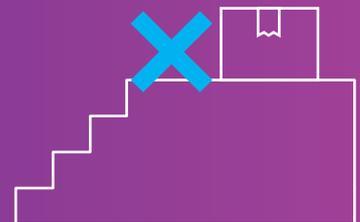


Keep all firefighting equipment, such as extinguishers and fire hoses clear of obstructions.

Never store items in fire equipment cupboards



Never prop or wedge open fire or smoke doors because these are designed to stop the spread of smoke and fire



Do not store items in corridors or staircases as this can block escape routes and obstruct firefighters from doing their job.

In a life threatening emergency dial Triple Zero (000)



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FIRE SAFETY IN HIGH RISE BUILDINGS



WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF A FIRE



Stay calm and get everyone out as quickly as possible.



Don't use lifts in a fire. Use emergency exits or fire stairs. Fire stairs provide a path leading you to a safe place away from the building.



Respond immediately when alerted to a fire in your building. Evacuate to your pre-planned safe meeting place.



Get out, stay out and call **Triple Zero (000)**. Never go back inside a burning building.



Don't waste time investigating what's happened or trying to save valuables.

FACT:
A fire can become fatal in less than three minutes

COMMON FIRES

Don't overload power points and power boards and check leads for damage or faults.



Extinguish cigarettes properly in a deep ashtray.



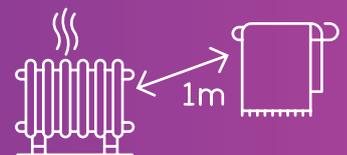
Never use wheat bags in bed. Turn off electric blankets when not in use and store correctly: roll, don't fold.



Keep looking when cooking. Never leave your cooking unattended. Most fires in the home start in the kitchen.



Keep everything one metre from your heater and switch off all heating devices when leaving the room.



In a life threatening emergency dial Triple Zero (000)



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SMOKE ALARMS

Remember, only working smoke alarms save lives. Have and maintain a working smoke alarm.



IF YOU CANNOT ESCAPE BY FIRE STAIRS:



Close all windows and doors to stop smoke entering your apartment.



Call Triple Zero (000) and tell the operator there is a fire in your apartment block. Tell them your apartment number and that you are unable to get out safely, and then follow their advice.



HIGH-RISE FIRE SAFETY TIPS



Know where the fire exits, fire stairs and firefighting equipment are located.



NEVER prop open fire doors or leave anything in fire stairs.



Do not overcrowd. Too many people living in one room increases the risk of fire.



Make sure BBQs and heaters on balconies are at least a metre away from all objects. Turn off when not in use.



Make and practice an escape plan with your family. Decide on a safe meeting place outside and away from the building.

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FIRE SAFETY ON BALCONIES



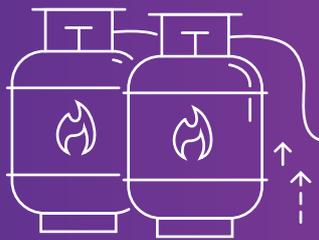
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You can reduce the risk of fires occurring on your balconies by following the steps below to ensure your safety and prevent property damage.



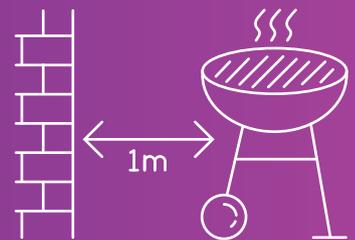
GAS BOTTLES

Always store gas bottles outside, upright and away from sources of heat. **Always turn off the gas bottle when not in use.**



BARBEQUES

When using a **barbeque** maintain a **safe distance of 1m from exterior walls**, anything else that could burn, as well as any electrical ignition sources.



ASH TRAYS

Smokers should use heavy, high-sided ashtrays (made of glass, ceramic or metal) to prevent them tipping over. **Always fully extinguish cigarettes.**

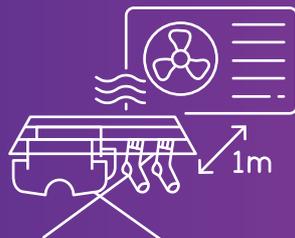


RUBBISH

Remove rubbish, clutter and flammable items from balconies and keep furniture away from exterior walls.

AIR CONDITIONER

Keep all materials including clothes at least **1 metre clear of air conditioner units.**



EXTINGUISHER

Keep a dry powder fire extinguisher easily accessible. Use only in case of a small fire and if you feel physically and mentally able.



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