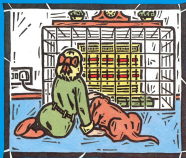


FIRE SAFETY  
IN THE HOME



# Electrical safety leads to fire safety



# Electrical safety leads to fire safety

Electricity is often overlooked as a possible fire hazard. Maybe this is because there is no flame. However, some 28,000 fires in the home are reported each year as being caused by electrical faults,

**Over 2,500 people are killed or injured as a result of electrical fires every year.**

accidents or by misuse of electrical equipment.

This leaflet looks at the main areas of electrical hazard in your home and explains how you can stop fire starting.

## 1 Plugs and flexes

Some electrical appliances are designed to be left on all the time. Check the manufacturer's instructions or if you are unsure, with the shop where you bought it.

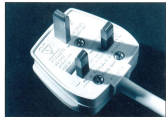
All other electrical appliances should be switched off and unplugged when not in use. Remove plugs carefully; don't remove them by pulling the flex.



Use a three pin plug which conforms to the British Standard and carries the kitemark.

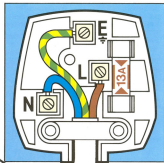
Overloading the socket by using several adaptors into the one socket can cause it to overheat and catch fire. Use a good quality adaptor and ensure it has the correct fuse.

When buying new equipment look out for the BEAB Mark of Safety. This means that it has been tested and approved by the British Electrotechnical Approvals Board.



## 2 Wiring a plug

Learn the wiring colours and make sure you follow them when fitting a plug. Always use the correct fuse for the equipment you are using and follow the manufacturer's instructions.



## 3 Cookers

Always make sure that saucepans are in a safe position on the cooker.

Handles should not stick over the edge of the cooker, where they can be knocked over, or left within the reach of children. Make sure the



handles are not over a hot ring or burner.

Flies from electrical equipment, such as kettles and toasters, should be kept well away from the cooker and tea towels should never be dried over the cooker.

Never leave a saucepan unattended with the heat turned on and be especially careful when using chip pans with oil or fat.

Make sure that ovens are not left on after use.



# 6

# Heaters

Make sure you don't sit too close to the heater to keep warm. You could easily set light to your clothes or your chair, particularly if you fall asleep.

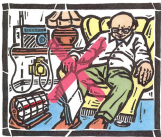
Heaters should always stand in a safe place where they can't be knocked over and where they can't be tripped over. They should be kept well away from furniture and soft furnishings, such as curtains and cushions. Do not position heaters where objects may fall onto them.

Portable heaters should never be placed close to beds or used to dry clothes.

As with open fires, make sure that all heaters are correctly guarded, if you have young children at

home, make sure you use an all-enclosed guard with your heater as well.

For further information and advice on fire safety in your home contact your local fire brigade.



Fire. Don't give it a chance