

CHRISTMAS FIRE HAZARDS

E-Bikes, E-Scooters and Lithium-ion Batteries

Do you own or are you thinking about buying an e-bike or e-scooter?

Lithium-ion batteries such of those in e-bikes can easily catch fire if they are damaged or not charged correctly. Remember these top tips:

- Only use manufacturer-approved batteries and chargers and follow manufacturer's instructions
- Do you charge batteries when you are asleep or away from home - you should awake and alert
- Do not overcharge batteries and charge away from escape routes.

In the event of an e-bike, e-scooter or lithium-ion battery fire – do not attempt to extinguish the fire. Get out, stay out, call 999.



Christmas Lights and Decorations

Christmas is getting closer and many of us are getting ready to put our decorations up to get in the festive spirit. Before you deck the halls, remember to check your lights meet British Standards and are in good working order. Don't overload plug sockets and make sure lights are turned off at night.



SAFETY INFORMATION



Don't overload plugs and sockets

Overloaded plug sockets can cause electrical fires. Adaptors and extension leads have a limit to how many amps they can take - don't put your home at risk! Check cables for damage and sockets for scorch marks.



Identify and practice your fire escape route

A well-practised escape route plan could help save a life in the event of a fire. Keep communal areas, hallways and doorways free from clutter and obstructions and make sure everyone knows the escape route.



Test your smoke alarm every week

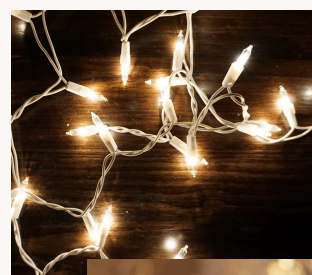
You're twice as likely to die in a fire if you don't have a working smoke alarm in your home. We test them annually during your Annual Gas Service but press the test button every week to make sure they're working correctly.



Seasonal hazards and the most common causes of fire during the Christmas period:

ELECTRICAL ISSUES

These can include old or damaged fairy lights or overheating from leaving them on overnight. Overloading extension leads and adapters for decorations and appliances can cause fires.



CANDLES

Decorative candles look festive but if they are left unattended or placed near flammable materials like curtains, cards or decorations they pose a serious fire safety risk.



COOKING

There is generally more cooking activity over the festive period, coupled with more distractions - ensure ovens and hobs are not left unattended and are turned off when not in use.



PORTABLE HEATERS

Ensure portable heaters are not placed too close to Christmas trees, furniture or decorations and never dry clothes on them.



CHRISTMAS TREES

If you have a real Christmas Tree, make sure you water it regularly. When they dry out, they can become highly flammable, especially if placed near a heat source. Artificial trees are made from combustible material.



ALCOHOL

Higher alcohol consumption can lead to reduced attention to safety (such as forgetting to turn off appliances or blow out candles).



FIREWORKS AND OUTDOOR DISPLAYS

Fireworks or outdoor candles used during celebrations can cause fires unless proper precautions are taken.



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