



DEVON &
SOMERSET
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

PROTECT YOUR
HOME WITH
SMOKE
ALARMS



For a **free** Home Fire Safety Check

Contact us

☎ 0800 05 02 999

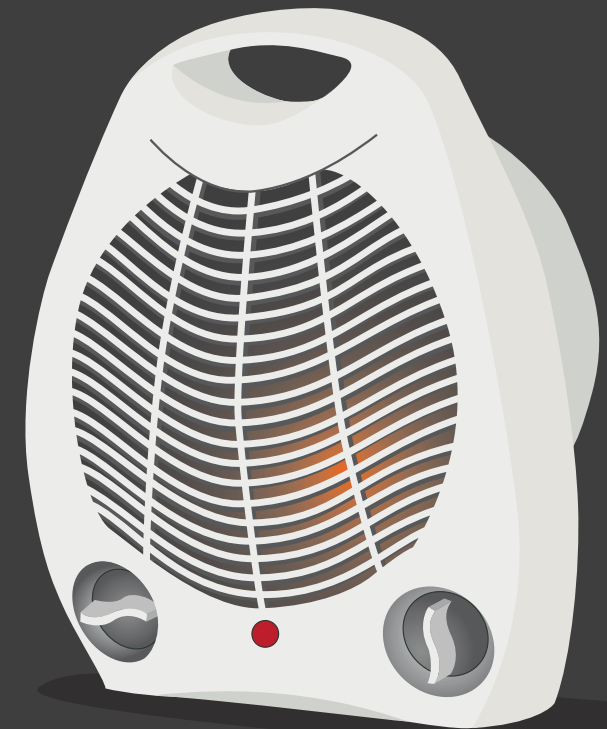
@ firekills@dsfire.gov.uk

🌐 www.dsfire.gov.uk

Text info line: 078 00 00 2476

To request any information in this document in an alternative format or language please call **0800 05 02 999** or email **firekills@dsfire.gov.uk**

Electric and
gas heater
safety



Ensure you have a smoke alarm installed on each level of your home and test it weekly.

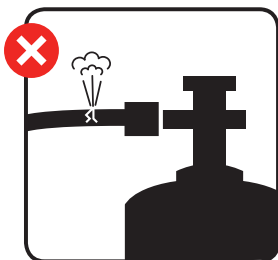
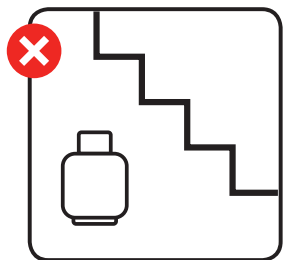
Electric and gas heater safety

Most accidents involving heaters happen because we stand them too close to curtains and furniture, use them to dry our washing or because we sit too close to them.

Follow our safety advice below to ensure you stay warm and safe.

Gas heaters

- Ensure the heater conforms to British Standards, and have it serviced regularly by a registered Gas Safe engineer.
- Only use gas or paraffin heaters in well ventilated areas and never block or obstruct vents.
- Do not turn any electrical switches on or off if you smell gas.
- Never use aerosol sprays near a gas heater.



- Store spare cylinders upright and outside whenever possible. Never store them in basements, under stairs or in cupboards containing electric meters or equipment.
- When changing a gas heater cylinder, try to do this in open air. Otherwise, open windows and doors to increase ventilation. Check that the valve on the empty cylinder is closed before disconnecting it and do not turn on the valve of the new cylinder until it is securely connected to the heater.

Portable electric heaters

- Try to secure heaters up against a wall to stop them falling over.
- Don't put anything on top of heaters that will obstruct the air grills.
- Ensure your appliances are regularly serviced by a qualified engineer.



General advice

- Always following the manufactures instructions.
- Keep heaters at least one metre away from furniture and curtains.
- Do not move a heater while it is switched on.
- Always switch off and unplug heaters when you go out or go to bed.
- Have fireguards to prevent and protect children and/or pets coming in contact with heaters.
- Never dry washing on or near heaters or on fireguards.

Carbon monoxide advice

- Installation, repair and regular servicing of any gas/fossil fuel appliances and fires should be done by a Gas Safe registered engineer.
- Make sure you have good ventilation and enough fresh air in the room containing your gas appliance.
- Carbon monoxide alarms are available from DIY and hardware stores.

