

What to do in the event of a fire

The following is an extract from BS 5588–12:2004 (FIRE PRECAUTIONS IN THE DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND USE OF BUILDING – PART 12: MANAGING FIRE SAFETY) and the following provides instructions on fire precautions and actions to be taken in the event of a fire.

At all times:

- Make sure that the smoke alarms in your property are working.
- Do not store anything in your hall or corridor, especially anything that will burn easily.
- Use the fixed heating system fitted in your property. If this is not possible, only use a convection heater in your hall or corridor. Do not use any form of radiant heater there, especially one with either a flame (gas or paraffin) or a radiant element (electric bar fire)
- Do not store things in the cupboard(s) where your gas and electricity mains are fitted.
- Do not block access road to the building.

If a fire breaks out within your property:

- if you are in the room when the fire is, leave straight away, together with anybody else, then close the door behind you.
- Do not stay behind to put the fire out.
- Tell everybody else in your property about the fire and get everybody to leave. Close the front door and leave the building.
- Do not use the balcony unless part of the escape route from the building.

Call the Fire Brigade

if you see or hear of a fire in another part of the building:

- You must leave your property if smoke or heat affects it. Close all doors and windows before leaving.

Calling the Fire Brigade

- The Fire Brigade should always be told of a fire even if it's only seems a small fire. This should be done straight away.

The way to call the Fire Brigade is by telephoning as follows:

- Dial 999 from a landline or 112 from a mobile phone.
- When the operator answers give them your telephone number you are ringing from and ask for fire.
- When the Fire Brigade reply tell them clearly the address where the fire is.
- Do not replace the receiver until the Fire Brigade have repeated the address to you and you are sure they have got it right. The Fire Brigade cannot help if they do not have the full address.