



## Kidde safety

Bringing you peace of mind



# Kidde Safety – bringing you peace of mind

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## Background

Every year in the UK, the Fire Brigade is called out to over 60,000 fires in the home, from which more than 500 people die and around 10,000 are injured.

This booklet has been designed not only to help you to minimize the risk of fire breaking out in your home, but also to demonstrate that deciding how to protect your home and family does not have to be a difficult and daunting prospect – in fact, it can be as easy as ABC!



### Kitchen

- fire extinguisher
- 
- fire blanket
- 
- carbon monoxide alarm



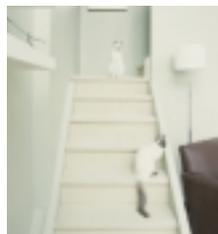
### Living Rooms

- smoke alarm
- 
- carbon monoxide alarm



### Garage

- fire extinguisher
- 
- fire blanket



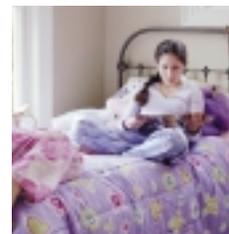
### Hallways & Landings

- fire extinguisher
- 
- smoke alarm
- 
- carbon monoxide alarm
- 
- escape ladder



### Bedrooms

- fire extinguisher
- 
- smoke alarm
- 
- carbon monoxide alarm
- 
- escape ladder



### Child's Bedroom

- smoke alarm
- 
- carbon monoxide alarm
- 
- escape ladder

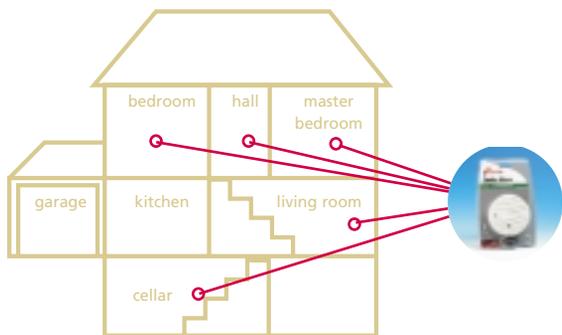
## General guide to a safer home

### Fit a Smoke Alarm

The Fire Protection Association and the Home Office recommend every household should have a smoke alarm that carries the British Standard Kitemark – BS 5446 Part 1.



- A working smoke alarm doubles a person's chance of surviving a fire and can reduce fatalities by up to 90 per cent
- For minimum coverage, smoke alarms should be installed on each level of the home at the top and bottom of the stairways
- For maximum protection, an alarm should be installed on each level including basements and in the hallways at the top and bottom of the stairways and in all rooms excluding the kitchen and bathroom.
- Make sure you can hear the alarms if they activate
- Test your alarm each week
- Change the battery and carefully clean around the body of your alarm with a vacuum cleaner every year
- Replace the battery as soon as the warning bleeper sounds



A working smoke alarm doubles a person's chance of surviving a fire

### Fire Extinguishers

In the event of fire – Get out – Stay out – Dial 999 and ask for the Fire Brigade

It may be possible to safely extinguish a small domestic fire yourself without taking unnecessary risks by tackling a fire that is beyond your capabilities.



A fire extinguisher's rating is the measure of its fire fighting capability. It is important that your fire extinguisher is suitable for the type of fire that you are likely to be dealing with – so for simplicity and peace of mind, choose an 'ABC' – rated extinguisher.



**A**

Wood, Paper,  
Textiles

**B**

Petrol, Oil,  
Paints

**C**

Flammable  
Gasses

These will be noted on the extinguisher label,  
with the pictograms as shown above

*Kidde Fire Extinguishers are all safe for use  
on electrical fires*

- **Only** tackle a fire in its early stages
- Make sure you can escape if you need to and never let a fire block your exit
- Never tackle a fire if it is starting to spread or if the room is starting to fill with smoke
- Be sure the extinguisher is fit for its specific purpose – see above table for classifications.

- Extinguishers are not recommended for use on fat-pan fires
- Buy an extinguisher with a pressure indicator to be sure it is filled, pressurised and ready for use
- Remember the **PASS** method –
  - 1 **Pull** the pin.
  - 2 **Aim** at the base of the fire, staying at least six feet away.
  - 3 **Squeeze** the handle.
  - 4 **Sweep** the base of the fire from side to side

## Fire Blankets

Fire blankets are made from fire-resistant material and are particularly useful for smothering fat-pan fires and for wrapping around a person whose clothing is on fire.



- Only use fire blankets conforming to British Standard BSEN 1869 in the home
- Check if your fire blanket should be thrown away after use or can be used again in accordance with manufacturers instructions
- Keep your fire blanket in the kitchen, easily accessible, in a location that you will avoid injury when reaching for it during a fire.

Keep your fire blanket in the kitchen

## Carbon Monoxide

Carbon Monoxide (CO) is a colourless, tasteless, odourless gas produced when fossil fuels such as coal, oil, natural gas, LPG, charcoal and wood are not burned efficiently. It can be produced from inadequately maintained or badly fitted domestic heating appliances such as wall heaters, fires and boilers, blocked flues, or exhaust vents



### THE SYMPTOMS

The symptoms of CO poisoning include headaches, tiredness, muscle pain, nausea and vomiting, all of which are easily misdiagnosed as flu, fatigue or food poisoning.

The most at risk from CO poisoning are people who spend more time indoors such as mothers and mothers-to-be, children and pensioners as well as those with respiratory problems.

### HOW TO PROTECT THE FAMILY

- Buy a domestic Carbon Monoxide detector with a BSI Kitemark
- The best type of alarm is one with a visible and audible warning
- Battery operated versions are fully portable and can be taken on holiday
- Mains-powered versions are also available to eliminate the risk of battery failure



The most at risk from CO poisoning are people who spend more time indoors

## The Kidde “ABC” guide to home safety

We at Kidde recognize that with all the fire safety products available on the market, together with the enormous variety of advice available, it can be a quite daunting prospect when deciding how to protect your family and home from the threat of fire and carbon monoxide.

Ideally, all homes would be equipped throughout with the full and recommended range of fire safety products (smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, fire extinguishers, fire blankets and emergency escape ladders) in the recommended locations throughout.

Realistically however, this can be a confusing, time-consuming and in some cases costly challenge.

In this booklet, we acknowledge that for full and complete home safety, the maximum recommended safety measures should be taken, but if this is not possible, by following our simple “ABC guide to home safety” it is possible to ensure adequate protection throughout your home that is inexpensive and easy to apply.

The key locations of the home that must be protected from fire and carbon monoxide are the kitchen, the living room areas, the hallways and the bedrooms,



In this guide we recommend the simple measures that can be taken to provide your home and family with these varying degrees of protection;

**A** = Adequate Protection  
**B** = Better Protection  
**C** = Complete Protection

## The Kitchen

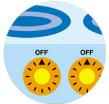
| Level of Protection | Smoke Alarms      | CO Alarms | Fire Extinguishers | Fire Blankets | Emergency Escape Ladders |
|---------------------|-------------------|-----------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| <b>A</b>            | Close to Kitchen* | 1         |                    |               |                          |
| <b>B</b>            | 1 Heat Alarm**    | 1         | Either             |               |                          |
| <b>C</b>            | 1 Heat Alarm**    | 1         | 1                  | 1             |                          |

\* with hush facility to silence nuisance alarms

\*\* in conjunction, and inter-connected to other appropriate smoke alarms in the home.

### FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SAFETY IN THE KITCHEN

- Never hang tea towels on the cooker or let electrical leads hang across it
- Never leave the cooker when it's switched on and make sure it's switched off after use
- Don't let fat and grease build up on the cooker
- Never allow children in the kitchen unsupervised



## The Living Room Areas

| Level of Protection | Smoke Alarms | CO Alarms | Fire Extinguishers | Fire Blankets | Emergency Escape Ladders |
|---------------------|--------------|-----------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| A                   | 1*           |           |                    |               |                          |
| B                   | 1*           | 1         |                    |               |                          |
| C                   | 1*           | 1         | 1                  |               | 1**                      |

\* Note that it is recommended that for maximum protection, both ionisation and photoelectric smoke alarms are fitted in the home – the ideal place for a photoelectric smoke alarm is the living room area where slow, smoldering fires are more common.

\*\* Recommended if the living area is not on the ground floor

### FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SAFETY IN LIVING ROOM AREAS

- Never leave a lit cigarette unattended
- Never empty hot ashes from an ashtray – let them cool down first
- Always use a British Standard Kitemarked spark guard for heaters and fires but don't put clothing on it to dry
- Don't sit or stand too close to portable heaters and fires
- Always put heaters where they can't be knocked over and away from furniture
- Don't run extension leads or cables under carpets or overload electric sockets
- Unplug all electrical appliances before going to bed
- Do not position mirrors over fire places as people will stand in front of them, near the fire
- Ensure correct rated fuses are used in plugs
- Check that any candles used are properly extinguished



## Hallways / Landings

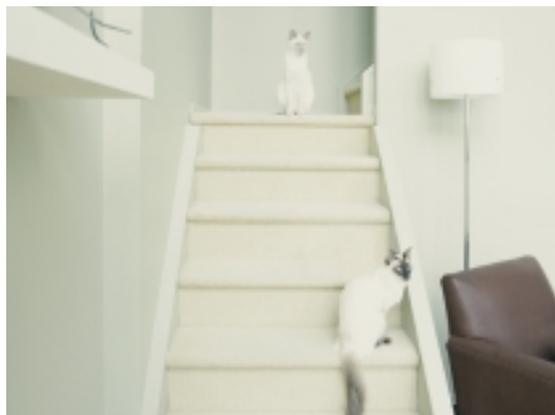
| Level of Protection | Smoke Alarms | CO Alarms | Fire Extinguishers | Fire Blankets | Emergency Escape Ladders |
|---------------------|--------------|-----------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| A                   | 2*           |           |                    |               |                          |
| B                   | 2*#          |           | 1                  |               | 1                        |
| C                   | 2*#          | 1         | 1                  | 1             | 1                        |

\* It is recommended that for maximum protection, both ionisation (upstairs) and photoelectric (downstairs) smoke alarms are fitted in the home

# with emergency light fitted

### FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SAFETY IN THE HALLWAY

- It is essential that hallways and landing areas of the home are kept clear, and that potential escape routes are not blocked.



## Bedrooms

| Level of Protection | Smoke Alarms | CO Alarms | Fire Extinguishers | Fire Blankets | Emergency Escape Ladders |
|---------------------|--------------|-----------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| A                   | 1            |           |                    |               |                          |
| B                   | 1            | 1         |                    |               | 1                        |
| C                   | 1            | 1         | 1*                 |               | 1                        |

\* Not recommended in a baby or young child's bedroom

### FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SAFETY IN THE BEDROOMS

- Never smoke in bed
- Switch off and unplug all electrical appliances that are not supposed to be on at night
- Make sure that no cigarettes, pipes or candles are left alight
- Switch off all heaters and electric blankets before getting into bed, and always follow manufacturer's guidelines
- Close all the doors



## What to do if a fire starts in the home

- Warn all other people in the home
- Get out and stay out
- Call the fire brigade – dial 999
- Close all the doors behind you if there is time
- Don't waste time picking up valuables or possessions
- Never open a door unless you need to escape through it

### IF YOU CAN'T GET OUT:

- Go into a room and close the door
- Block any gaps under the door with towels, sheets or clothes – dampen them first if possible
- Go to the window and try to attract attention
- If the room fills with smoke, stay close to the floor
- If you are on the first floor and in immediate danger, lower yourself out of the window feet first
- Drop cushions or bedding to break your fall

## How to protect yourself

Most deaths from fire could be prevented by having:

- Smoke alarms in working order
- Fire extinguishers
- Fire blankets

Every household should also have a proper escape plan that everyone is aware of.

## Top 10 Safety Tips

### HOW TO MAKE YOUR HOUSE A SAFE HOME:

1

**Fit smoke alarms and check them regularly**

2

**Make a fire action plan so that everyone in your house knows how to escape in the event of fire**

3

**Take care when cooking with hot oil and think about using thermostatically controlled deep fat fryers rather than an open pan**

4

**Never leave lit candles unattended**

5

**Ensure cigarettes are stubbed out and disposed of carefully**

6

**Never smoke in bed**

7

**Keep matches and lighters away from children**

8

**Keep clothing away from heating appliances**

9

**Take care in the kitchen! Accidents whilst cooking account for 60% of fires in the home**

10

**Take special care when you are tired or if you've been drinking alcohol - half of all deaths in domestic fires happen between 10pm and 8am.**

Source [www.firekills.gov.uk](http://www.firekills.gov.uk)

Kidde Safety Europe is the world's leading manufacturer of domestic fire safety equipment, offering an extensive range of high quality products.

Backed by excellent customer service, the range includes smoke and fire alarms, carbon monoxide alarms, fire extinguishers, fire blankets and escape ladders.



All of Kidde Safety products are approved by third party laboratories and certified, many of them holding BSI Kitemark or LPCB mark of approval. Every smoke and fire alarm is also guaranteed for a minimum of five years and features a test/reset facility.