

Stay safe this Halloween and Bonfire night



An easy guide to protect your home and help you avoid fire risks.

Don't play trick-or-trick on safety

Make sure you take the right precautions to keep the things you love safe this season.

- If you're welcoming trick-or-treaters, make sure you always lock your door in between visits.
- When you're out celebrating, leave all doors and windows locked. You can also leave some lights on to make it look like someone's home.
- Avoid running cables through windows and doors as they won't lock. Go for battery-powered items or use power sources located outside for your external decorations.
- Make the most of your alarm and CCTV systems, motion sensor lights and any other home security gear – they tend to keep burglars and vandals away.

- If you don't have a CCTV system, take photos and videos of your property – you'll then have before and after proof if you're targeted by vandals.
- Don't leave ladders outside or anything that could give intruders easy access to your home.

With darker days setting in, be extra vigilant when locking your vehicles. If possible, keep them in the garage and securely lock it.

Fire-proof festivities

Help keep you and your loved ones safe from fire hazards with our essential tips.

- Don't use flammable objects and materials, such as bin liners, to create homemade costumes.
- Avoid wearing long and loose clothes as they're more of a fire and trip hazard.



Top tips

Safe tea lights - swap your pumpkin candle for an LED tea light, especially if children are carrying them

- Make sure candles are nowhere near textiles, such as curtains or cushions, and keep children away from naked flames.
- Confirm all candles are extinguished before leaving the house or going to bed.
- If using decorative lights, don't overload any electricity sockets.

Firework safety

- Only buy certified fireworks from a legitimate seller and read the instructions carefully before using them.
- Keep fireworks away from any ignition or heat sources such as heaters or cigarettes
- Make sure fireworks are kept dry and don't put them in your pockets or throw them.
- Don't light fireworks, including sparklers, when it's windy or inside your home, and don't attach them to sheds or outbuildings.
- Keep lit fireworks and sparklers at arm's length – using a taper or a long-tipped lighter to light them.

Take care of your pets

If you know there's going to be fireworks, keep your pets indoors. Make sure your blinds and curtains are closed and create them a comfortable area they feel safe in. You can also turn the TV or radio on to play some comforting music and sounds.



Remember

Fire Services usually advise it's safer to attend organised bonfires and firework displays than having your own.