

## > KEEPING YOUR BUILDING SAFE

No refuse bags, combustible materials or items of furniture should be stored in common areas such as stairways, corridors or drying rooms within a building. By keeping these areas clear it will protect escape routes and reduce the risk of deliberate fires.

Lifts, fire alarm panels, fire doors and dry riser landing valves are there to assist with firefighting operations. If you see damage to any of these features, please report it immediately.

Most doors in common areas are fire resisting and fitted with self closing devices and should never be wedged open.

Bin rooms and access doors to the building should be kept secure to prevent intruders starting deliberate fires.

There should be no gas cylinders, flammable liquids or fuels stored or used within a high-rise building.

Emergency vehicle parking areas should be kept clear to allow firefighters access to fire hydrants and the building quickly in the event of fire.

# YOU CAN HELP TO MAKE YOUR BUILDING SAFER

## > BUILT TO BE FIREPROOF

The materials and fittings within a multi-storey are designed to prevent fire and smoke spread.

If there is a fire in someone else's flat, you'll be safer staying in your own home.

Most fires will not spread further than the area where they have started.

You are at no more risk of having a house fire than those living in other types of house.

## > CONTACT US

Visit [www.firescotland.gov.uk](http://www.firescotland.gov.uk) for practical fire safety advice. Or talk to your local firefighters. You'll find contact details on the website, in your local library and in the phone book.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format or a version in another language, please contact **0800 0731 999**.

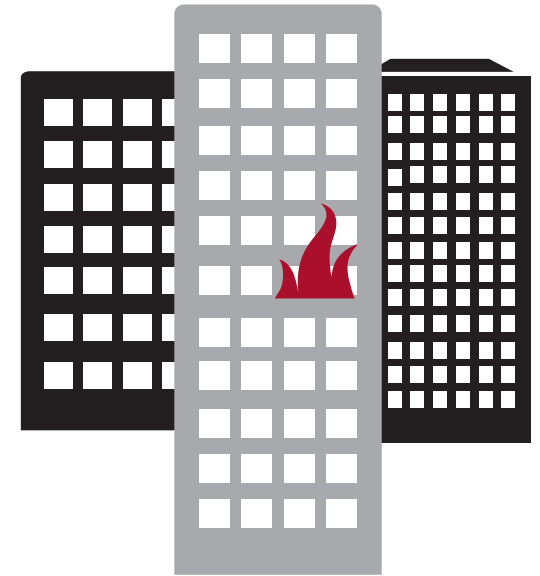
**TO BOOK A FREE HOME FIRE SAFETY VISIT**  
Call **0800 0731 999**  
or visit [www.firescotland.gov.uk](http://www.firescotland.gov.uk)



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FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Working together for a safer Scotland

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## > SMOKE AND HEAT ALARMS FOR EARLY WARNING

Make sure you've got working smoke alarms and test them weekly. You may also consider fitting a heat alarm in your kitchen.

If they fail to operate, contact your landlord or factor to get them repaired or replaced.

Homeowners, landlords or factors should replace defective units with long life battery detectors or hard wired systems.

**Make sure smoke and heat alarms can be heard in all areas of the home with the doors closed.**

## > FIRE ESCAPE PLANS TO GET OUT QUICKLY

All homes should have a fire escape plan that the whole family/household knows about. It should include:

- How to get out quickly at night
- Where the front door keys are located
- Who is going to get the children
- An identified 'safe room' in case you can't escape. Choose a room with a phone and a window

**Practise your plan, especially if you have children.**



## > IF A FIRE OCCURS IN YOUR FLAT

Smoke alarms should give you early warning in order to escape safely.

- Follow your 'fire escape plan'
- Close doors behind you as you escape, to prevent smoke and fire spread
- Shout to alert the household and get out quickly
- Don't return to investigate or fight the fire
- If smoke is present keep low, crawl if you need to get below the smoke level
- Don't use the lifts; always take the stairs to exit the building

**Once you get out, call the Fire and Rescue Service and stay out.**

## > IF THE FIRE IS NOT IN YOUR FLAT

If a smoke alarm is sounding in a communal area or you smell smoke, call the Fire and Rescue Service and tell them the location of the fire if you know it.

Stay in your flat and keep the front door closed, you will be far safer.

Pack a towel or sheets around the bottom of the front door to stop smoke getting in. Go to an open window and wait for the arrival of the Fire and Rescue Service.

**Only leave the safety of your flat if you're affected by heat or smoke, or if you're told to leave by firefighters or the Police.**

## > IF YOU ARE TRAPPED

In the unlikely event of becoming trapped by fire in your home, go to your 'safe room' and gather everyone there.

Call the Fire and Rescue Service as soon as possible and protect the room by packing bedding or towels around the door to help block smoke.

Open the window to breathe clean air and try attracting attention by waving a sheet.

Gather on a balcony if one is accessible.

**Do not jump – the Fire and Rescue Service will be on their way.**

