



apas



alcohol
alcohol
and the risk of

FIRE

Some homes are more vulnerable to the risk of fire than others. Generally, households where there are young children, elderly persons or smokers are more likely to have fires than other households. There are obvious reasons for this!

However, not many people know there are other less obvious other added risk factors:

One of these is the use of alcohol and other mood altering drugs. People who have had a drink may become confused, forgetful or may fail to foresee the consequences of their actions. They are also, therefore, less likely to be aware of the development of a fire.

This leaflet is designed to help you protect yourself against the risk of fire.



apas

This leaflet has been produced by apas and the Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service working in partnership to make the community safer

Action you should take to protect yourself

Almost all fires in the home can be prevented. Here are some safety tips which could prevent a fire from happening in your home:

Chip pans:

Never fill a chip pan more than one-third full of fat or oil

Never leave a pan unattended when the heat is switched on

Never put food in the pan if the oil begins to give off smoke. Turn off the heat and leave it to cool

Heaters:

Never sit closer than three feet to a heater

Never hang clothes or furnishings near it

Smoking:

Never leave a lit cigarette unattended

Never smoke in a chair if you think you might doze off

Always keep matches and lighters well out of reach of children

At bedtime:

Many fires might start at night. Here are a few simple things you should do every night:

Make sure no cigarettes or pipes are still burning

Never smoke in bed

Before emptying ashtrays make sure the contents are cold

Switch off portable heaters

Close the doors of all rooms

Fit a smoke alarm

General advice on smoke alarms

- Smoke alarms, complete with battery, cost as little as £5.
- If correctly fitted and maintained they can save lives.
- They are widely available from DIY, hardware and electrical shops and some supermarkets.

Choose one which meets British Standard BS5446 Part 1 and carries the Kite Mark. Follow the manufacturers instructions on how to fit the alarm. The government now recommends at least one alarm is fitted per floor. Landings and hallways are the most suitable site. Alarms should not be fitted in kitchens, bathrooms, garages or workshops.

Statistics show that people on lower incomes spend less on fire security. If you need help with the cost or the fitting of a fire alarm, or any advice about fire safety in the home, contact one of the agencies listed overleaf.

For help with the purchase or fitting of smoke alarms, contact apas, the Alcohol Problems Advisory Service

Telephone: 0845 762 6316



HOW TO GET HELP

For advice on general fire safety, contact:

**The Community Fire Safety
Department of Nottinghamshire
Fire and Rescue Services**

Telephone: (0115) 967 0880

apas

Alcohol Problems Advisory Service

Telephone: 0845 762 6316

www.apas.org.uk