

# HOME FIRE SAFETY CHECKLIST



Prepare your home to ensure it is home fire safe.

## SMOKE ALARMS

- Test** that your smoke alarm/s are working. If not, change the batteries or replace the alarm.
- Clean** your smoke alarm with a duster or vacuum cleaner to remove dust and any insects.
- Check** the smoke alarm is in date.

**i** ACT Fire & Rescue recommends that you have at least one working smoke alarm on each level of the home, placed between bedrooms and living areas. Hard-wired and interconnected smoke alarms should also be installed wherever possible.

## HOME FIRE ESCAPE PLANS

- Create** your home fire escape plan and **discuss** it with your household.
- Know** and record two safe ways out of every room. Make sure that your windows and doors are not obstructed and can be unlocked and opened quickly if necessary.
- As you exit the structure make sure you **close** internal doors behind you. This can reduce fire spread and minimise damage.

**i** Having a home fire escape plan will greatly increase your chances of getting out safely. If there is a fire in your home, do not wait, get out and stay out as every second counts. **Never go back inside a burning building.**

## HEATERS

- Check** your electric and gas heaters before you use them and check the cords for fraying and damage before use.
- Have your electric or gas heating system installed or serviced by a qualified technician as per manufacturing instructions.
- Always keep items one metre from the heater.
- If you have a gas heater, consider purchasing a combined smoke alarm and carbon monoxide detector.



In a life threatening emergency dial Triple Zero (000)



ACT EMERGENCY SERVICES AGENCY

## ELECTRIC BLANKETS

- Test your electric blanket before use by laying it on top of your bed, feeling the internal wires for any abnormalities and inspecting cords/controls for damage.
- Before packing away, roll it for storage, folding can cause damage.

**i** Turn your electric blanket on for 5 minutes and then feel for any uneven hot spots. If you notice any of the abnormalities, the electric blanket should be replaced.

## FIREPLACES AND CHIMNEYS

- Have your chimney serviced prior to using it by a qualified tradesperson.
- Ensure your wood pile sits at least a metre away from the fireplace.
- Purchase a fire screen if you do not own one. Fire screens should always be placed in front of fireplaces when in use.
- Choose a safe place to store matches and lighters where children cannot reach and that is at least a metre away from the fireplace.

## SOLAR PV ARRAY AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS (BESS)

- Visually check your connections and cables for damage.
- Keep Emergency Guidance information at the meter box to allow for easy access for Emergency Services.
- ACTF&R recommends Solar PV Array and BESS be regularly checked and serviced by an authorised technician as per manufacturing instructions
- Ensure signage has been installed per AS/NZS 5139:2019 to alert people and emergency services are aware of the installed system.
- Know your emergency shutdown procedures



**Be Fire Ready**



The ACT Emergency Services Agency is the single point of truth for emergency information in the ACT.

Visit the ESA website for more fire safety and preparedness tips.

[esa.act.gov.au](http://esa.act.gov.au)



SCAN FOR MORE INFORMATION