

THE MUST-HAVE FIRE SAFETY CHECKLIST

Here are just a few of the precautions recommended by the QLD Fire and Rescue Service to protect you, your family and your home:

- Take extra care when assessing the level of risk from intruders so that it also provides for a planned safe means of escape for your family should there be a fire.
- Make sure keys to all locked doors are readily accessible if you have deadlocks fitted.
- Make sure each and every window and door can be quickly opened when required.
- Install an adequate number of suitable smoke alarms and test them regularly. Don't forget to replace the battery in each smoke alarm at least once a year.
- Have a written escape plan in case of fire and practise it regularly.
- Never leave cooking or any other open flame unattended.
- Never smoke in bed and take extra care if consuming alcohol while smoking.
- Store all flammable liquids in purpose-designed containers.
- Fit a fire extinguisher in the home.
- Regularly clean the lint filter of your clothes dryer.
- In winter take extra care when using heaters, electric blankets or open fires. Do not exceed the manufacturer's recommended use by date for electric blankets.
- Don't overload power points. Switch off appliances when not in use.
- Always keep lighters and matches away from children.
- Keep emergency numbers in a very visible place and educate all members of the family how to call for help and escape from fire.