



HAS YOUR LANDLORD INSTALLED SMOKE ALARMS?

They should have, because it's now law!



10 easy tips to keep you and your flatmates fire-safe.

1 Do you have smoke alarms in bedrooms, hallways and living areas?

Your landlord is required by law to install a minimum of one working smoke alarm on every level of the house and within three metres of each bedroom door. However it is safer if there is an alarm in every bedroom, so ask your landlord to install more.

2 Have you tested your smoke alarms?

Just as your landlord is required to install working smoke alarms, you are responsible for maintaining them. Don't tamper with it, this reduces your chance of escape in a fire and carries a fine of up to \$3,000. Check them every month by pressing the test button.

3 Don't drink and fry.

If you've been drinking, get take-aways. Coming home from a night out, turning on the fry pan and falling asleep is a recipe for disaster. Smoking and drinking can also be a lethal cocktail. Always extinguish cigarettes safely.

4 Keep looking when you're cooking.

Don't get side-tracked by Facebook, Xbox or even your study! Stay in the kitchen when you are cooking.

5 Have you done a tech check?

Don't overload on your power sockets. When using your appliances such as laptops, TVs, Xboxes etc, consider using multi boxes with circuit breakers.

6 Keep anything flammable at least one metre away from the heater.

Keep everything that is flammable at least one metre away from the heater and open fires. Cutting costs by drying your undies on the heater could end up costing more than a steep power bill.

7 Do you have an open or solid fuel fire?

Check with your landlord to see if the chimney has been cleaned. Always use a fire screen and safely remove ashes with a metal bucket. Ashes can take up to five days to cool.

8 Is your house letterbox number clear to read so that emergency services can find your home easily?

9 If the smoke alarm goes off, don't muck about, get out!

10 In an emergency, call 111.

Either from a neighbour's house or your cell phone. Never go back into a burning house.



It is now law for rental properties to have smoke alarms. For more on your rights and responsibilities visit fire.org.nz