



Tips to celebrate Christmas safely

Preventing crime:

- Facing a frosty morning? Whatever you do, don't leave your vehicle with the keys in the ignition while defrosting the car.
- As your mind is racing through Santa's shopping list, remember when you are out and about, please lock your car and make sure the windows are closed. Remember to remove any valuables from display.
- If you have gone out to buy a bag of Christmas presents, only take with you what you need. Avoid carrying lots of cash in your purse. Make sure you remember your PIN number – don't write it down. Make sure your purse or wallet is tucked away safely in an inside pocket.
- Taking that selfie beside the London Eye? Take care with your social media posts and advertising your home is empty. Also, consider investing in a timer to turn your lights on, or asking a trusted neighbour, friend or family member to do this in order to make the property look lived in.
- Meeting up for a few festive drinks with friends? Stick together. If you walk home, walk with friends and stay on well-lit, busy streets. If using a taxi, make sure it's registered.
- With the tree up, don't leave presents underneath if they are in view from windows.
- For some, Christmas can be a difficult time. Keep an eye out for others you think might be suffering from domestic abuse. If you experience this abuse, or know someone who is, call 101 or 999 in an emergency. The Northamptonshire Domestic Abuse Service can be called on 0300 0120154 or see www.ndas.co

Have a very happy and safe Christmas, from all at Northamptonshire Police and Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service!

In an emergency call **999**
For non emergencies call **101**



www.northants.police.uk



Northamptonshire Police

Fighting crime, protecting people



Tips to celebrate Christmas safely

Preventing fire:

- Putting lit candles in your Christmas trees is a real fire risk which will see your tree go up in flames. Make sure candles aren't placed in or near decorations and keep them out of the reach of children too.
- Don't simply dust off Christmas lights year after year. Make sure lights are safe! They must not be damaged and must conform to the British Standard (BS EN 6058). Always remember to switch fairy lights off and unplug them before bed. Make sure you do not overload electrical sockets.
- Always use an RCD (residual current device) on outdoor electrical equipment. This can save lives by switching off power if there is a fault.
- Drinking alcohol leads to fire hazards every year. It affects coordination and concentration, so, if you are planning to drink alcohol, it's best to leave the drinking until after the cooking is done.
- Remember Christmas decorations can set alight easily, so don't attach them to lights or heaters.
- One of the most important steps you can take to protect your home against fire is to install some smoke alarms on every level of your home. Check them once a month as a working smoke alarm really does save lives.
- Do something good this Christmas. Test the smoke alarms of someone you know who may need help, such as an older relative or neighbour to ensure their safety as they may be at greater risk from fire.

Check that fairy lights conform to British Standard (BS EN 60598). Look out for this logo



Have a very happy and safe Christmas, from all at Northamptonshire Police and Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service!

In an emergency call **999**

For non emergencies call **101**



www.northants.police.uk



Northamptonshire Police

Fighting crime, protecting people