

HIGH-RISE LIVING



**Northamptonshire
Fire & Rescue Service**



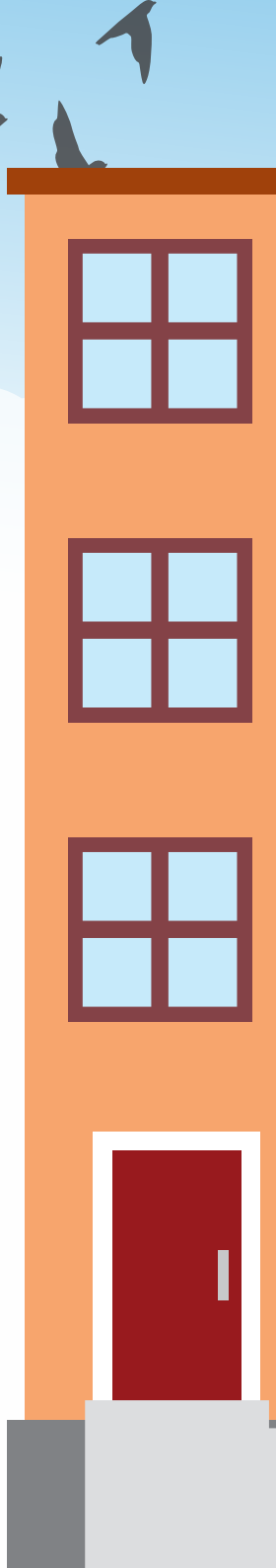
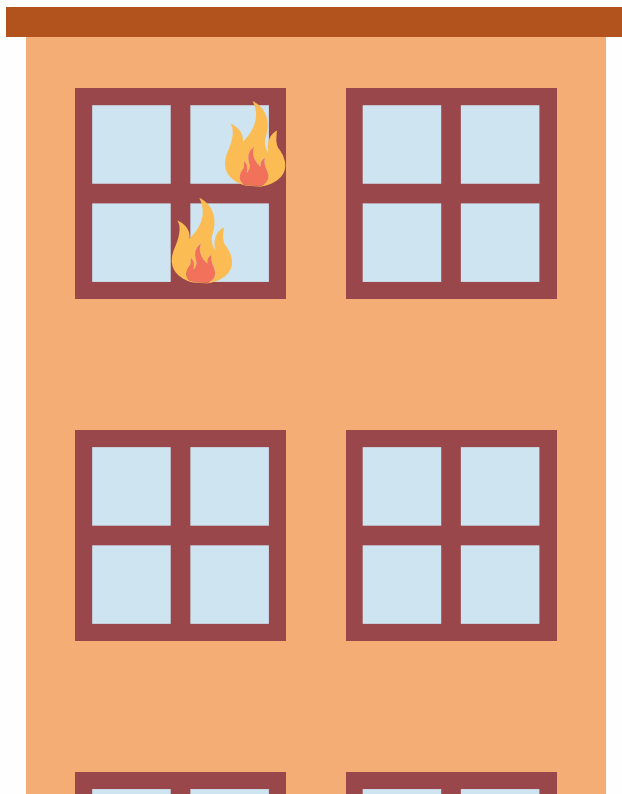
LIVING THE HIGH LIFE

Living in a high-rise block doesn't mean you are any more at risk from fire, but it does mean you need to consider your fire safety and the impact a fire in your home could have on other residents.

It is important for your own safety to understand what to do in the event of a fire, whether it's in your flat or somewhere else in the building.

DID YOU KNOW?

That most high-rise flats are built to delay the spread of fire.





BUILT WITH YOUR SAFETY IN MIND

Your building has been designed and built with fire safety in mind.

LIFT ACCESS

Never use the lift when evacuating the building. The fire may cause a power failure, trapping you inside.

EMERGENCY ACCESS

Never block emergency access to your building. We need to get as close as possible to the entrance.

FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT

Dry or wet riser pipes run internally through the block and are usually painted red. The pipes provide water to higher floors to tackle fires.

It is important that any damage to this equipment is reported as soon as you see it.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR BUILDING'S EVACUATION PLAN?

Your building's plan will be either:

Full evacuation -

When the alarm sounds, get everyone in your flat out of the building using emergency fire exit routes and stairs (don't use the lift).

Stay put -

Unless the fire is in your flat or a direct neighbour's, keep your front door and windows closed. Tune in to local TV or radio and await further instructions from the emergency services.

To enable you to plan your escape, ensure you understand the fire plan for your building. For further advice on this contact your housing provider or management company.

WHAT TO DO IF THE

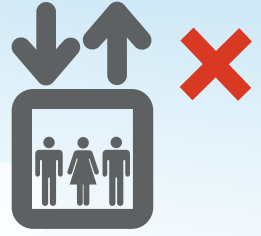
**IN YOUR OR A
NEIGHBOUR'S FLAT**



Leave your flat
and close the door

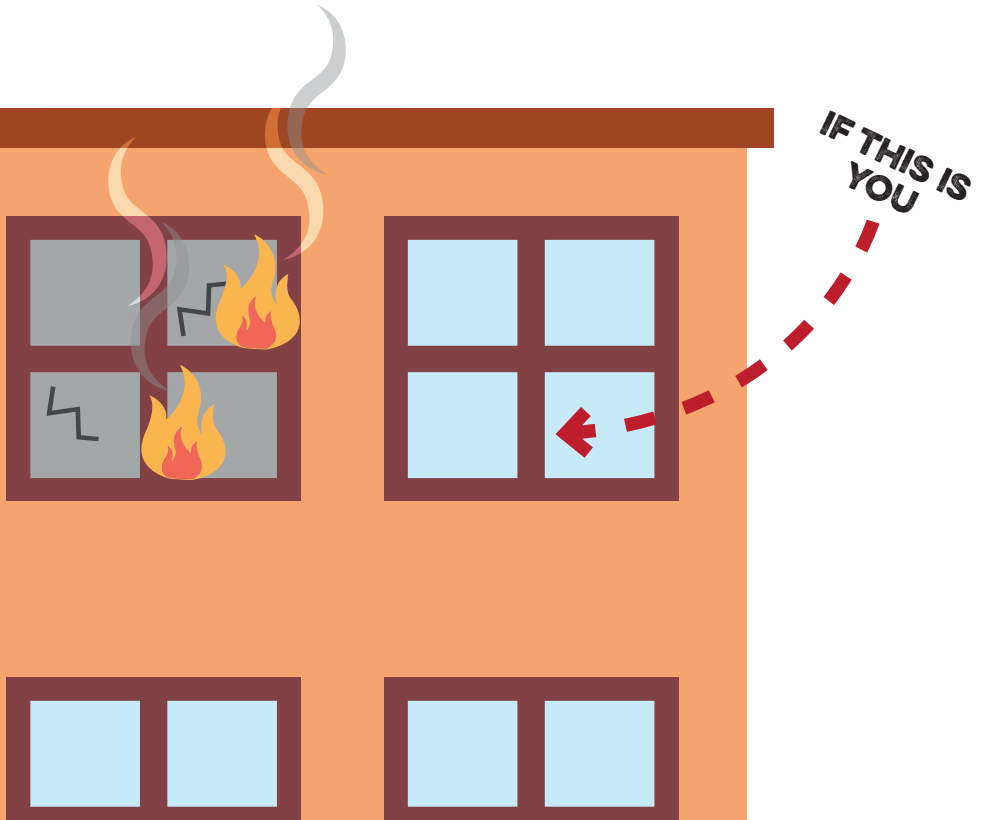


Use the stairs



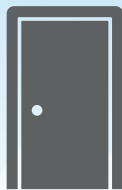
Never use the lift

Get out, stay out, call 999. Never assume someone else has called.



RE IS A FIRE...

ELSEWHERE IN YOUR BLOCK



Close your windows
and doors



Stay in and tune in
to local TV or radio



Stay put unless advised
by the fire service

If the fire service need to fully evacuate the building, they will knock on your door.

Unneeded evacuation can obstruct the fire service and delay them putting the fire out.

**IF THIS IS
YOU**



WE'LL BE THERE

If you can see the fire service already there, then there is no need to call 999.

If every resident in a high-rise block rang 999, our control room would have less time to take calls from other emergencies.

DON'T BE ALARMED

Don't be alarmed by the scale of the fire service's presence.

We need a large amount of resources to get our equipment from the ground up to the floor of the fire and to protect our firefighters.



PROTECT YOUR HOME

- » Fit at least one smoke alarm in your flat
- » Don't fit it in your kitchen or bathroom as this may cause false alarms
- » Test once a week
- » Never take the batteries out
- » Always follow the manufacturer's advice



BE PREPARED

- » Keep all exits clear, both in communal corridors and in your home
- » Keep door and window keys accessible
- » Prepare a grab bag that you can take if you need to be evacuated
 - Think about prescriptions, documents such as your driving licence and passport, spare keys, a mobile phone, charger and a torch
- » Know how to isolate your flat's gas, electricity and water supply
- » Get to know your neighbours. Are they young, elderly or vulnerable? They may need assistance in an emergency

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a highly poisonous gas that has no smell, colour or taste. Gas appliances such as boilers or fires, or solid fuel fires can release this gas if they are not properly installed and maintained.

Never ignore these symptoms:



Seek medical assistance and get appliances checked.

Bedtime checklist

Many fires happen at night when most people are sleeping

Working smoke alarms should wake you if a fire does break out but you can further reduce your risk by carrying out some simple checks before you go to bed:

- ☑ **CLOSE INSIDE DOORS** at night to stop a fire from spreading
- ☑ **SWITCH OFF** and unplug electrical appliances that don't need to be used
- ☑ **SWITCH OFF** chargers for mobile phones, tablets and computers
- ☑ **CHECK** your cooker is switched off
- ☑ **SWITCH OFF** the washing machine, tumble dryer or dishwasher
- ☑ **PUT OUT** candles, incense sticks and oil burners before you go to sleep
- ☑ **PUT OUT** cigarettes and double check them, it's best to wet them to be sure
- ☑ **CHECK** your escape routes are clear
- ☑ **CHECK** door and window keys are easy to find in an emergency
- ☑ **MAKE SURE** mobility aids are close to hand for those who require them



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