

Cigarettes are the biggest killer in accidental house fires - claiming over 140 lives each year - and the second biggest cause of injury.

Every three days someone dies from a fire caused by a cigarette.

### ***Put It Out, Right Out***

With a few simple tips you can reduce the risks from careless smoking:

- Put it out, right out - make sure your cigarette is fully extinguished.
- Take extra care when you are tired, taking drugs or have been drinking alcohol. It is very easy to fall asleep without realising that your cigarette is still burning.
- Never smoke in bed - if you need to lie down, do not light up. You could doze off and set your bed on fire.
- Never leave lit cigarettes, cigars or pipes unattended - they can easily overbalance as they burn down, land on a carpet or newspaper and start a fire.
- Where possible buy child-resistant lighters and matchboxes - every year children die by starting fires with matches and lighters.
- Use a proper, heavy ashtray that cannot tip over easily and is made of a material that will not burn.
- Tap your ash into an ashtray - never a wastebasket - and do not let the ash or cigarette ends build up in the ashtray.

Ensure that you have a working smoke alarm - when a fire starts, you only have a few minutes to escape. A working smoke alarm can buy you valuable time to get out, stay out and dial 999

For a free home safety check click the link below.

[Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service – Home Visit Request](#)