

Fire hazards in the office and how to avoid them

DID YOU KNOW?



74,118 building fires were reported between April 2017 and March 2018 in England alone

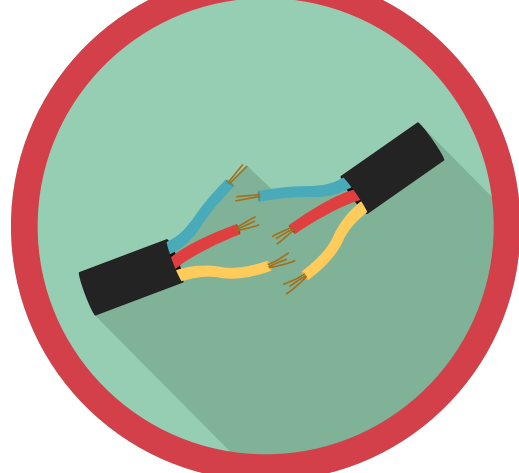
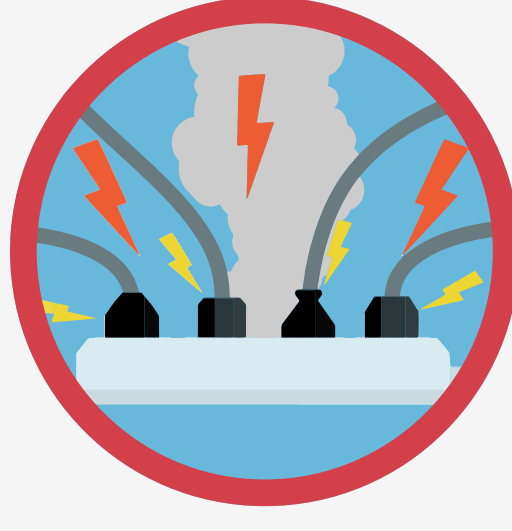
34% of accidental building fires are caused by the 'misuse of equipment or appliances'



Top 5 fire hazards in the office

PLUG SOCKETS AND EXTENSION CABLES

Overloaded sockets and extension cables draw too much power through the system and cause overheating which leads to fire!



FAULTY WIRES

Exposed wires are notorious for shocks, skin burns and sparks.

HUMAN FAULT

Burnt toast, papers on top of cooling fans, spilt drinks: all of these contribute to accidental fires.

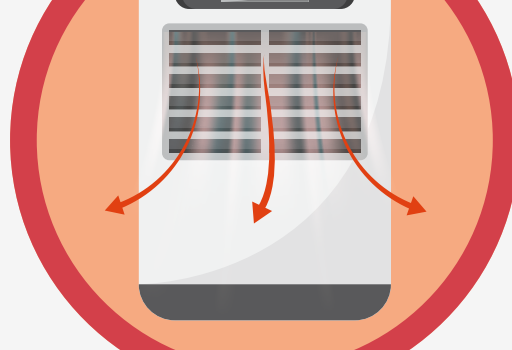


CLUTTERED OFFICE SPACE

Nick nacks and mentos make the place look homely but they also harbour dust and grease which makes fires more likely.

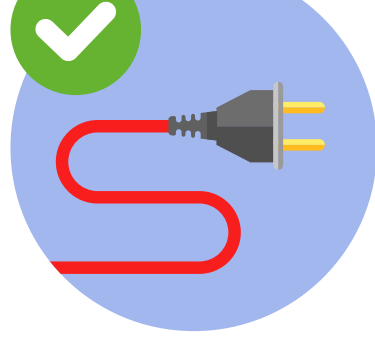
HEATERS

Turn up the thermostat instead of using personal heaters as they are likely to overload electrical circuits and are often left unattended.



How can you minimise the risks of fire in your office?

DO'S...



Check your electrical cables every 6 months



Have regular PAT tests (Portable Appliance Testing)



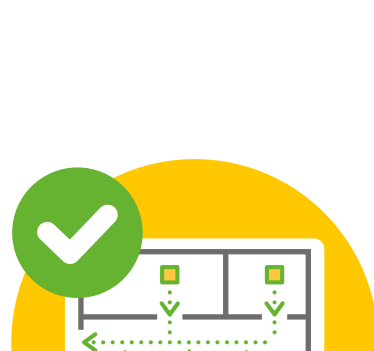
Tidy away paper and recycle packaging



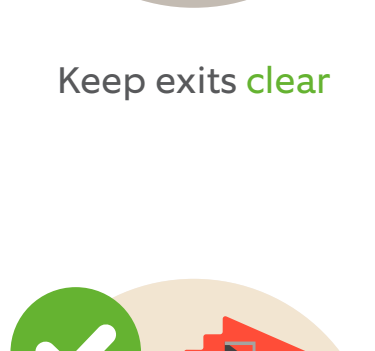
Use drinks trays



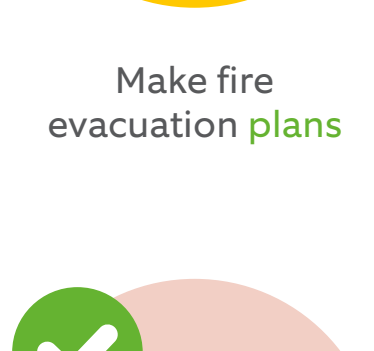
Keep exits clear



Make fire evacuation plans

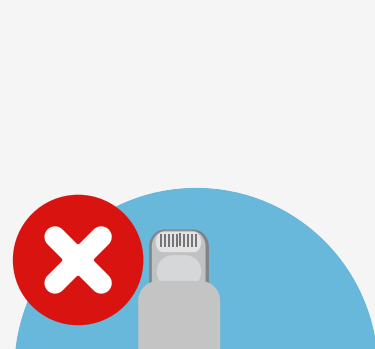


Elect some fire wardens

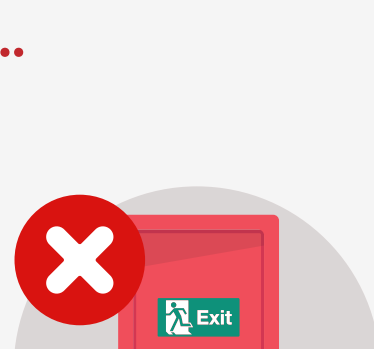


Practice your plans with a fire drill

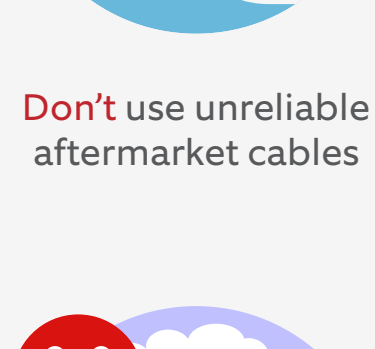
DONT'S...



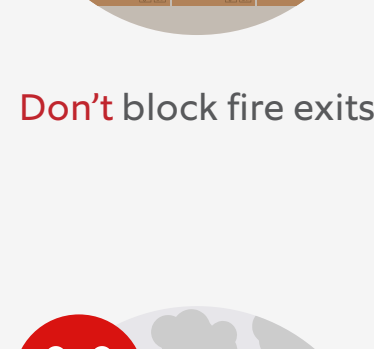
Don't use unreliable aftermarket cables



Don't block fire exits



Don't forget to make a fire evacuation plan



Don't overload your electrical sockets with extensions

Remember to seek professional guidance for your fire prevention plans, risk assessments and mandatory fire safety equipment such as fire extinguishers and fire blankets.