

Candles, Lighters and Matches

Children playing with lighters, matches and candles are a common cause of fires in the home. These fires cause thousands of dollars damage and have contributed to the death and injury of a number of people – including children. Most of these fires are accidental and preventable.

Follow these simple tips when using and storing lighters, matches and candles to help make your home and your children safer from fires.

Candles

- Candles should only be used under adult supervision
- Candles should never be left unattended
- Candles should be kept clear of any combustible (quick to burn) materials such as paper, curtains and clothing
- Keep candles away from flammable liquids and gas-combustible materials
- Candles should not be placed in windows as they can be blown over causing blinds and curtains too catch alight
- Candles should be placed on a stable, dry, heat-resistant surface away from drafts
- Candles should always be put out before leaving a room or going to sleep



Did you know?

Many children have been known to suffer from burns that require hospital treatment, as a result of playing with matches and lighters.

Lighters and matches

- Keep lighters and matches out of the reach of children, preferably up high or in a locked cabinet
- Never leave children unattended with lighters or matches
- Teach your children that lighters and matches can be dangerous, and to tell an adult when they see them laying around
- Never use lighters or matches to entertain children – they may copy you
- Use only lighters designed with child-resistant features

Never leave children unattended with candles, lighters or matches



Matches and Lighters are tools not toys!

In the event of a fire

- Crawl low under smoke
- Assist or alert any people in danger, but only if it is safe to do so
- Go to your safe meeting place, such as your letter box
- Call **000** (triple zero)
- Wait for firefighters to arrive
- Do not re-enter a burning house under any circumstances

For more information visit www.dfes.wa.gov.au or contact **DFES Community Engagement 9395 9816**