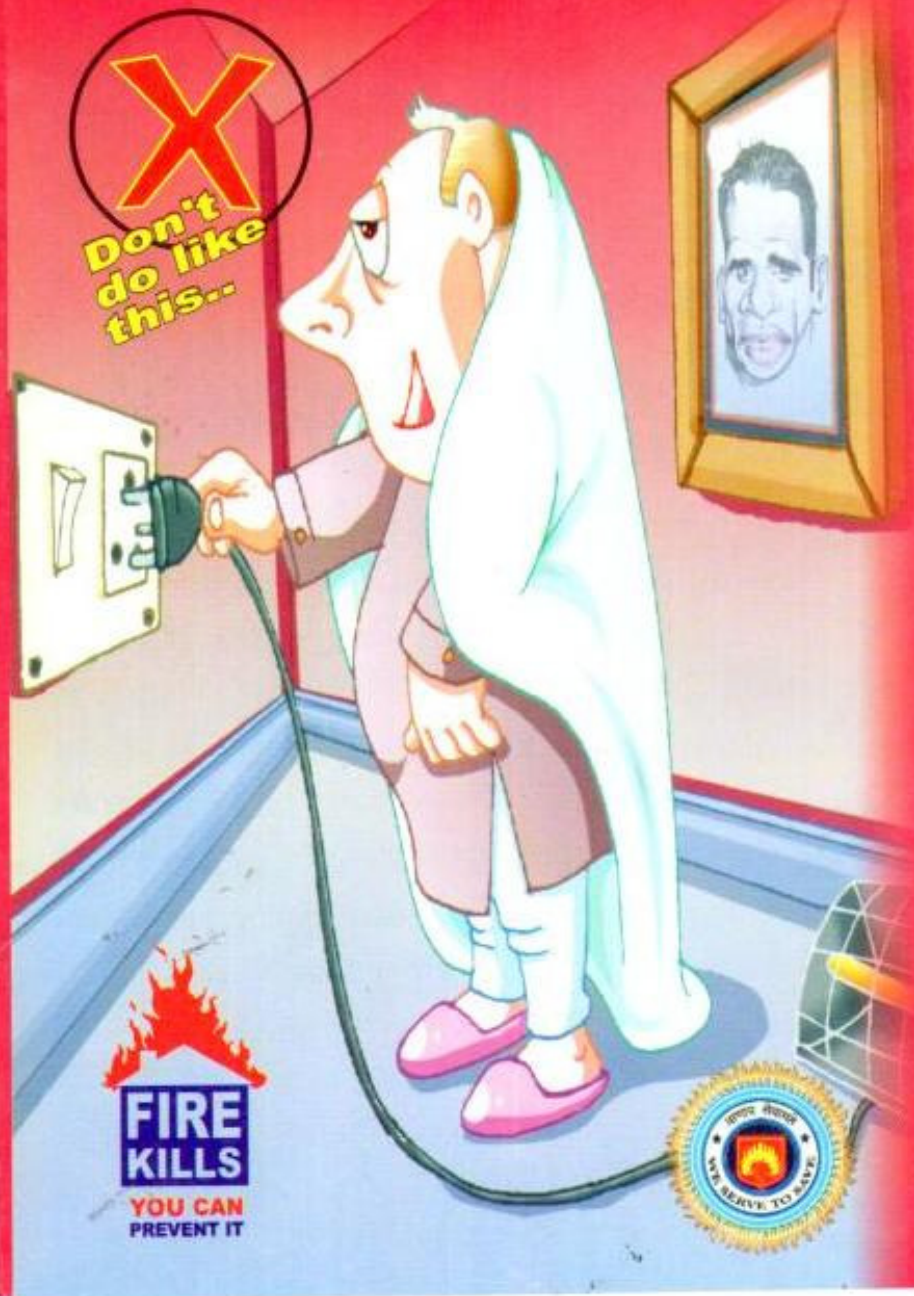


# Electrical Fire Precautions



# ELECTRICAL FIRE PRECAUTIONS

Electricity is a major cause of Fire accidents. About 60% fires are of electric origin on account of electric short circuit, over heating, overloading, use of non-standard appliances, illegal tapping of electric wires, improper electrical wiring, carelessness and ignorance etc. It can lead to serious fires and fatal accidents, if proper fire precautions are not followed. Such fire incidents can be minimized, if adequate fire precautions are observed.

This leaflet will brief about the main areas of electrical hazard in your home and explains how you can stop fire starting.

## 1. PLUGS AND FLEXES



- Some electrical appliances are designed to be left "ON" all the time. Check the manufacturer's instructions or if you are unsure, with the shop where you bought it. All other electrical appliances should be switched off and unplugged when not in use. Remove plugs carefully, don't remove them by pulling the flexes.
- Use a three-pin plug which conforms to the Indian Standards and carries the ISI Marks.
- Overloading the socket by using several adaptors into the one socket can cause it to overheat and catch fire. Use a good quality adaptor and ensure it has the correct fuse.



## 2.WIRING A PLUG

- Learn the wiring colours and make sure you follow the instructions as given by the manufactures when fitting a plug.



## 3.FUSE/ MCB

- Always use the correct fuse/MCB for the equipments you are using and follow the manufacturer's instructions.



## 4.COOKING GADGETS

- Always make sure that saucepans are in a safe position. Flexes from electrical equipments, such as kettles and toasters, should be kept well away from the open fire and tea towels etc. should never be dried over the gadgets.
- Never leave a saucepan unattended with the heat turned on and be especially careful when using chip pans with oil or fat.
- Make sure that ovens are not left on after use.



## 5.WARNING

- Look out for warning signs.
- Dangerous wiring.
- Hot plugs and sockets.
- Fuses that blow for no obvious reasons.
- Light flickering.



- Brown scorch marks on sockets and plugs. You should ask your electrician to check your wiring thoroughly if you see any of the danger signs.



## 6. ELECTRIC BLANKETS

- Many fires and deaths are due to blankets being left accidentally switched on. As with all electrical equipment, it is important that you follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- Check the instructions to see if you should switch off your blanket when you get into bed. Under blankets should always be tied to the bed and be switched off before you get into bed.
- All electric blankets should be kept dry and flat and should be serviced every two to three years. The shop where you bought it can tell you about servicing arrangements.

## 7. HEATERS



- Make sure you don't sit too close to the heater to keep warm. You could easily set light to your clothes or your chair, particularly if you fall asleep.
- Heaters should always stand in a safe place where they cannot be knocked over and where they cannot be tripped over. They should be kept well away from furniture and soft furnishing, such as curtains and cushions. Do not position heaters where objects may fall onto them. Portable heaters should never be placed close to beds or used to dry clothes.
- As with open fires, make sure that all heaters are correctly guarded. If you have young children at home, make sure you use an all enclosed guard with your heater as well.



## Do's

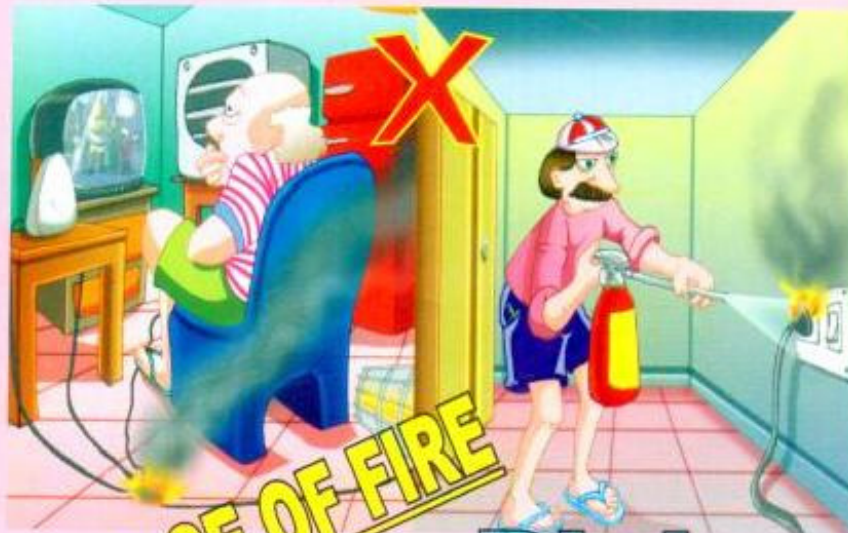
- (i) Use ISI certified appliances.
- (ii) Use good quality fuses of correct rating, miniature circuit breakers and earth leakage circuit breakers.
- (iii) Use one socket for one appliance.
- (iv) Switch off the electric supply of fire affected areas.
- (v) Fuses and switches should be mounted on metallic cubicles for greater safety against fire.
- (vi) Replace broken plugs and switches immediately.
- (vii) Keep the electrical wires away from hot and wet surfaces.
- (viii) Switch off appliances after use and remove plugs from the socket.
- (ix) Switch off the Main switch when leaving the premises home for a long duration.



## Don'ts

- Don't use substandard fixtures, appliances.
- Never have temporary or naked joints on wiring.
- Don't lay wires under carpets, mats or doorways. They get crushed, resulting in short circuiting.
- Don't allow appliances cords to dangle.
- Don't place bare wire ends in a socket.

**Follow Fire Precautions,  
Prevent Fire**



Dial

**101**

**OR**

**CONTACT THE NEAREST  
FIRE STATION**

**FOLLOW FIRE PRECAUTIONS,  
PREVENT FIRE**



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Ministry of Home Affairs  
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*Issued in Public Interest*