



Derbyshire
Fire & Rescue Service
Making Derbyshire Safer

Electrical Safety

Fire Safety Tips

www.derbys-fire.gov.uk

Unsafe second hand electrical goods could kill

Last year Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service attended **120** house fires caused by **faulty electrical equipment**.

Buyer's advice

There is always the temptation to try to 'bag a bargain' and buy second hand electrical equipment.

It is important for you to think carefully about whether or not the item you are buying is safe.

If you are thinking about buying a second hand/used electrical appliance we would suggest that you ask the seller the following questions before you make your purchase:

- Does the product carry the CE Mark?
- What safety checks have been carried out on the item by the seller before it was offered for sale?
- Were the checks carried out by a qualified person?
- Does the plug on the appliance comply with British Standard BS 1363?
- Are the original manufacturer's safety instructions included with the item?

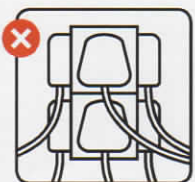
If the seller cannot answer your questions you are taking a risk of buying an unsafe item and a trade seller may be breaking the law.



Home safety tips

How to avoid electrical fires

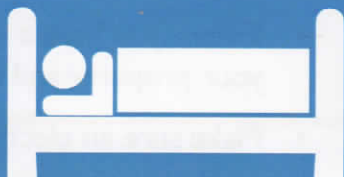
- Ensure you have a working smoke alarm in your property and test it today.
- Make sure an electrical appliance has a British or European safety mark when you buy it.
- Unplug appliances when you are not using them or when you go to bed.
- Try and keep to one plug per socket.
- Be aware of signs of dangerous or loose wiring such as scorch marks, hot plugs or sockets.
- Do not take liquids near to electrical appliances.
- Check and replace any old cables and leads, especially if they are hidden from view behind furniture or under carpets.
- Always check that you use the right fuse to prevent overheating.
- Certain appliances, such as washing machines, should have a single plug to themselves, as they are high powered.



Should you require further advice please contact
Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service on 01332 771221



Make a Bedtime Check



You are more at risk from a fire when asleep. So it's a good idea to check your home before you go to bed.

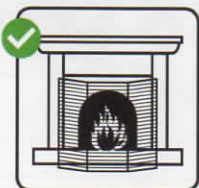
Check List



Close inside doors at night to stop a fire from spreading.



Turn off and unplug electrical appliances unless they are designed to be left on – like your freezer.



Check your cooker is turned off.

Don't leave the washing machine on.



Turn heaters off and put up fireguards.

Put candles and cigarettes out properly.

Make sure exits are kept clear.

Keep door and window keys where everyone can find them.