

# [www.dontgivefireahome.com](http://www.dontgivefireahome.com)

## No Smoke without fire

Every year the Fire Services attend 500 fatal household fires in Britain. Nearly 4 in 10 of these deaths resulted from careless use of smoking materials.

### Cigarettes, Pipes and Cigars

A cigar, cigarette or pipe left burning on the edge of an ashtray can easily fall onto or into furniture, newspapers or fabrics and can smoulder unseen for a considerable time before starting a serious fire.

Check to make sure that smoking materials are never left to burn unattended. Make sure that they are properly stubbed out in a suitable ashtray before leaving the room and disposed of safely in a suitable container before retiring to bed.

Check that people never smoke in bed or in an armchair when feeling drowsy. This is especially important when you or your family are under the influence of alcohol or drugs (prescribed or otherwise) as a large proportion of fatal fire victims are known to have been drinking prior to their death.

### Matches and Lighters

Fires are often caused by children playing with matches and lighters that have been left lying around the house. These fires cause many of the child fatalities each year.

**Check** that they are not left lying around. It would only need a child to be left on their own for a few minutes with a lighter or a box of matches for a serious fire to occur.

**Check** that disposable lighters are only put into use one at a time. Extra lighters should be locked away until required.

**Check** that matches are always properly extinguished before disposing of them.

**Check** that lighters comply with the current British standards BS EN ISO 9994: 1996.

**Check** that, where possible, lighters are child resistant and matches are kept in child resistant containers.

**Do you know where your matches and lighters are right now?**

**If you require further information contact your local Fire Service.**

**No Smoke Without Fire - it's your choice.**