

Fire escape plan



What to do in the event of a fire. For flats in Barking and Dagenham.

Important statutory information:

Step
1

If there's a fire in your flat and you can't control it:

- Leave the flat immediately
- Close all internal doors and the front door on your way out
- Dial 999
- Warn all the neighbours on your floor
- Leave the building by the stairs but don't leave the immediate area
- Wait for the fire brigade and tell them where the fire is and what caused it

Step
2

If the fire is in the flat above or below, stay in your property. Walls, floors and doors are designed to keep flames and smoke out and stop fire spreading. Keep your front door closed and dial 999. When the fire brigade arrive they will tell you what to do.

Step
3

If the fire's in a shared area on your floor:

- Stay in your flat
- Close your front door and all internal doors
- Block the bottom of the doors with wet clothing to stop smoke getting in
- Take everyone to the safest room in your home
- If there is a lot of smoke, crawl along the floor where the air will be clearer
- Dial 999 and when the fire brigade arrive they will tell you what to do

Aims of the fire escape plan

To reduce the risk of fire and make sure that you and everyone who visits your home is safe we have developed this 'Eight steps to safety' fire plan. Please make sure you read this plan, and that your family knows what to do if there is a fire. All flats are built to prevent fire from spreading. Walls, floors and fire doors will hold back flames and smoke. If there's a fire somewhere else in the building you are usually safer staying in your flat unless the heat and smoke is affecting you. Do not leave any rubbish, furniture, bikes or other items on the landings or communal stairs. These could block the escape routes and put lives in danger.

Fire safety advice:

Step
4

Make sure that you and your family are familiar with this escape plan and that you know all the escape routes. Keep all corridors leading to your front door clear at all times. The best escape route is down the shared stairs and out of the back and front entrance doors.
Never use the lift if there is a fire.

Step
5

Find a room in your flat where you can go to if there's a fire. Choose one which is away from the front door, has a window and a phone. You will be safe here if there is a fire in any shared areas and you can dial 999.

Step
6

Keep your address written down near the phone in case children, relatives or visitors have to dial 999.

Step
7

Keep a torch and make sure your family knows where it is. You can use this if you need to evacuate during the night and the emergency lighting fails.

Step
8

Keep any mobility aids, like walking sticks, wheelchairs and walking frames, in a place you can easily get them. Tell the fire brigade if one of your family has a sight or hearing problem or has trouble moving around.