

# Celebrate safely

Tragically, more people die in house fires during the festive season than at any other time of the year. You may have friends or relatives staying with you, spend more time cooking than usual and use candles or decorative lights. As a result, all the every day fire risks increase and fires can start all too easily.

Make sure you and your family stay safe and have a happy Christmas by following these simple safety tips:

- On the 1st day of Christmas** Fit smoke alarms on every level of your house and test the batteries every week.
- On the 2nd day of Christmas** Check your tree lights conform to the British Standard.
- On the 3rd day of Christmas** Never leave candles burning unattended.
- On the 4th day of Christmas** Make sure your family and guests staying with you know what to do in the event of a fire. Make a fire escape plan.
- On the 5th day of Christmas** Decorations can burn easily – don't attach them to lights or heaters.
- On the 6th day of Christmas** Don't overload electrical sockets.
- On the 7th day of Christmas** Never leave cooking unattended. Over half of all house fires start in the kitchen.
- On the 8th day of Christmas** Make sure cigarettes are completely extinguished before you go to bed.
- On the 9th day of Christmas** Keep lighters and matches out of the reach of children.
- On the 10th day of Christmas** Get into the habit of closing doors at night, especially the living room and kitchen doors.
- On the 11th day of Christmas** Switch off electrical appliances - including tree lights – at the mains before you go out or go to bed.
- On the 12th day of Christmas** Take the time to check on elderly relatives and neighbours to make sure they're fire safe.

For more fire safety advice, log on to our website at [www.rbfrs.co.uk](http://www.rbfrs.co.uk).