## **Fire Blankets**





A fire blanket should be stored within easy reach of the kitchen but away from the cooking area.

Victorian Fire Services recommend that you only use a fire blanket if you feel physically and mentally able to use this equipment safely.

### What is a fire blanket?

A fire blanket consists of a piece of fire-resistent fabric (usually woven glass fibre).

### When to use a fire blanket?

A fire blanket is ideal for extinguishing cooking fat fires and can be used to wrap around people if their clothes catch on fire.

# Where to store a fire blanket?

A fire blanket should be easily and quickly accessible. Fire blankets are often stored in kitchen areas where small cooking fires may occur.

Do not place them near the stove or cooking area as a stove top fire may prevent you from being able to access it. Instead, place the fire blanket near entrance to the kitchen. This will allow you to still exit the area if the fire grows out of control.

## Fire blanket tips

- It is important to purchase a fire blanket that carries the Australian Mark AS/NZS3504:2006
- A fire blanket must measure no less than 1metre x 1 metre
- Fire blankets should only be used once and then replaced after use
- Do not lift or remove the fire blanket to see if the flames are out
- Do not attempt to move or touch the blanket until it is cool.



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#### **How to use a Fire Blanket**

- 1. Pull down sharply on the tabs hanging from the bottom of the package torelease the fire blanket.
- 2, Hold the blanket in front of you with the fabric rolled back at the edges to protect your hands.
- 3. Place (not throw) the fire blanket over cooking fat fires, keeping hands and face protected behind it.
- 4. Lay the fire blanket gently over the fire. Do not throw the bottom of the blanket onto the far side of the fire as flames can run up the blanket to your hands.
- 5. Turn off the heat source and leave the blanket over the burnt area for atleast 15 minutes or until the heat has dissipated.
- 6. Call Triple Zero (000) and ask for FIRE.

To put out a clothing fire, wrap the blanket around the flames and person. Get them to drop to the ground and roll until the fire is out. Seek medical assistance immediately.

