

Using a fire blanket

STAYING SAFE IN YOUR HOME



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Fire blankets, used correctly, can quickly and effectively put out small kitchen fires.

When to use a fire blanket

When the fire is small

Only use fire blankets on small kitchen fires, like a stove fire in a pot or pan. This is because the blanket only works when it completely covers the fire.

Don't use fire blankets on larger fires.

When you feel confident to use a fire blanket

A fire blanket should only be used to put out a fire if you feel physically and mentally able to do so.

How to store a fire blanket

Store fire blankets in the kitchen, but away from the stove so if a fire starts you can get to it. Mount the fire blanket on the wall or cupboard door near kitchen door.

Buying a fire blanket

Fire blankets are available to buy from most hardware stores. Make sure they meet Australian Standards (AS/NZS 3504:2006).

Fire blankets should only be used once and then replaced after use.



How to use a fire blanket

Prepare the blanket for use

It's very important you hold onto the tabs hanging down below the mounted fire blanket throughout this process.

- Turn off the stove if safe.
- Hold the tabs at the bottom of the fire blanket hanging on the wall.
- Pull the tabs down without letting go of the tabs.
- Keep holding onto the tabs and shake the blanket so it unfolds.

Do not let go of the tabs until you've placed the fire blanket over the fire.

Place the blanket on the fire

- Still holding onto the tabs, use the top of the blanket to cover your hands. This protects you from fire.
- Walk slowly towards the fire, holding the blanket out in front of you to protect yourself from the heat.
- Put the blanket over the fire, covering the pot or pan on all sides.
- Let go of the tabs and step away from the stove. The fire should go out very quickly because it can't survive without oxygen.
- Leave the fire blanket on the stove. Don't lift it up to look under the blanket as the fire could start again.
- If the stove isn't off already, turn it off now.

If you can't put the fire out get out of the room and stay out. **Call Triple-Zero (000).**

What to do immediately after using a fire blanket

It is important to **call Triple-Zero (000)** after using a fire blanket, even if you think the fire is out.

The fire could still be smouldering in areas where you can't see it, such as your walls or ceiling. The fire brigade will make sure it is completely out.

If there is an insurance claim, your insurance company will want proof that the fire happened. The fire brigade can provide the proof as they will have the incident recorded in their systems.



For more information on home fire safety visit www.cfa.vic.gov.au/homefire