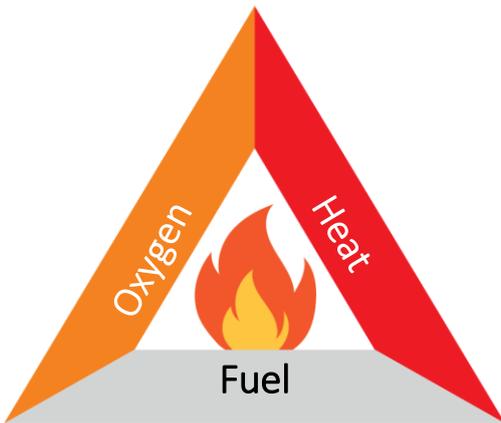


# Information about fire

For a fire to burn it needs:

- 🔥 Fuel
- 🔥 Heat
- 🔥 Oxygen



The fuel is the substance that is flammable or can burn (for example, wood, fabric, glue, petrol, rubbish, grass, trees and people). The fuel can be a solid, liquid or gas.

The heat can be:

- 🔥 Direct flame (for example, lighter, candle, match or open fire)
- 🔥 Radiant heat or heat that is radiated across a space from the source of the fuel but is strong enough to ignite a fuel (for example, heat from an electric bar heater igniting paper some distance away or the sun burning our skin)
- 🔥 Conducted heat or heat that is transmitted from one object to another by direct contact (for example, a hot spoon after it has been in a container of hot food or a poker in a fire)
- 🔥 Convected heat or heat that is carried through air currents (for example, hot air carried through the air from a bush fire to start another bush fire some distance away).

The oxygen comes from the air.

For a fire to start in a room in a house there must be:

- 🔥 Fuel or something to burn, for example, paper or fabric

- 🔥 Heat from a match, burning cigarette, the stove, a heater or an overheated electrical circuit
- 🔥 Oxygen from the air in the room

If one of these is not present, the fire will not start.

If one of these is removed, the fire will go out.

A fire in a wood burner will go out when all the wood has burnt because there is no more fuel.

A camp fire can go out if it rains as there is not enough heat to keep the fire burning.

A pot lid put on a burning pan puts the fire out because it deprived the fire of oxygen.

## Safe Fires

A safe fire can be described as a fire that is:

- 🔥 Lit in a suitable place, for example, in a fireplace, a barbecue or an incinerator
- 🔥 Not so large that it is out of control – which usually means the amount of fuel is controlled
- 🔥 Being watched and controlled by a responsible adult

## Unsafe Fires

An unsafe fire is a fire that is:

- 🔥 In the wrong place, for example, a fire in a chip pan, a fire in a bed or chair, a rubbish fire that is too close to a house or near trees or dry grass
- 🔥 Out of control, burning fast and using more and more fuel
- 🔥 Burning without people knowing about it or without people watching it and controlling it
- 🔥 Placed where people, especially young people or the elderly, could fall into it or touch it and get burnt. For example, an open fire or wood burner that does not have a guard that will stop children or adults falling on it and getting burnt.