



R B F & R S

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Celebrate Safely This Diwali

Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service is reminding people to take extra care to ensure they stay safe from fire this Diwali (9 November).

Diwali, the festival of lights, centres on the use of small oil lamps (diyas) placed around the house, which can pose a fire hazard if left unattended. The festival also involves more cooking and entertaining than usual, which can also increase the risk of fire.

Don't let a fire ruin your Diwali. Follow these tips to keep you and your family safe:

Diyas, tea lights and candles

- Always place diyas, tea lights and candles on heat resistant surfaces.
- Make sure you keep the flame at a safe distance from curtains, furniture and decorations.
- Keep long hair and clothing away from naked flames.
- Children should be supervised at all times near flames.

Cooking

- Don't let yourself get distracted - never leave cooking unattended.
- Take care if you are wearing loose clothing, as it can easily catch fire.
- When cooking deep-fried food, dry it before you put it into hot oil.
- If a pan with oil in does catch fire, don't move it and **never** throw water over it. Get out of the kitchen, close the door behind you and call 999.

Smoke alarms can be lifesavers. Fit one onto the ceiling of every floor level in your house and test the batteries every week.

For more fire safety advice, log onto www.rbfrs.co.uk.

ENDS.