Maintenance

The questions on this card will prompt you to think about putting regular maintenance checks in place to prevent a fire in the first instance.

ROYAL BERKSHIRE
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Thatch owner's challenge

	Yes	No
Do you regularly sweep your chimney? ⚠️ Refer to your insurer's guidelines as they may vary. As a general rule sweep twice a year. 🔍 See page 11	☐	☐
Do you burn seasoned wood? 🔍 See page 6 and 16	☐	☐
Is your flue outlet less than 1.8m from the thatch ridge? ⚠️ Consult with your insurers. 🔍 See page 7	☐	☐
Have you ever had your chimney inspected? ⚠️ Refer to your insurance guidelines. 🔍 See page 16	☐	☐
Have you had your spark arrestor cleaned recently? ⚠️ It could be blocked by soot, tar, and nests. 🔍 See page 8	☐	☐
Do you have heat sensors fitted into the thatch at chimney level or stovepipe monitors? ⚠️ Consult your insurers. 🔍 See page 8 and 10	☐	☐
Do you check all tradespeople (painters/plumbers/electricians) have experience/understanding of the potential risk of fire in thatch? 🔍 See page 14	☐	☐
Is your electrical wiring (internal/external light fittings) regularly checked by a qualified electrician? 🔍 See page 13	☐	☐
Are all new installations of electrical wiring fitted by a qualified electrician? 🔍 See page 13	☐	☐

Continued overleaf…

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⚠️ Homeowner's action point 🔍 See booklet for further details

Maintenance continued…

The questions on this card will prompt you to think about putting regular maintenance checks in place to prevent a fire in the first instance.
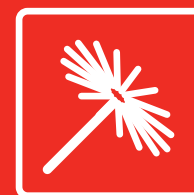
ROYAL BERKSHIRE
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Thatch owner's challenge

	Yes	No
Was your wood burner installed by an approved engineer? 🔍 See page 4	☐	☐
Do you regularly check smoke detector batteries? 🔍 See page 12	☐	☐
Do you use fireguards with open fires? ⚠️ Always use a fireguard no matter how small the fire and be able to secure it so it cannot be knocked over by falling logs	☐	☐
Do you have problems with pest control in your thatch? ⚠️ Contact your insurers or local council for advice	☐	☐

Now you have reviewed your property using the Thatch Owner's Challenge please use this space to record a list of any further actions you need to take.

⚠️ Things to do

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⚠️ Homeowner's action point 🔍 See booklet for further details