

DON'T GET YOUR WIRES CROSSED.

Reduce the risk of an electrical fire at your place.

Every year we support around 150 FMG Families affected by house fires.

As an advice-led insurer, we're committed to helping you avoid the potential disruption, emotional stress and the loss of treasured possessions that can result from a house fire.

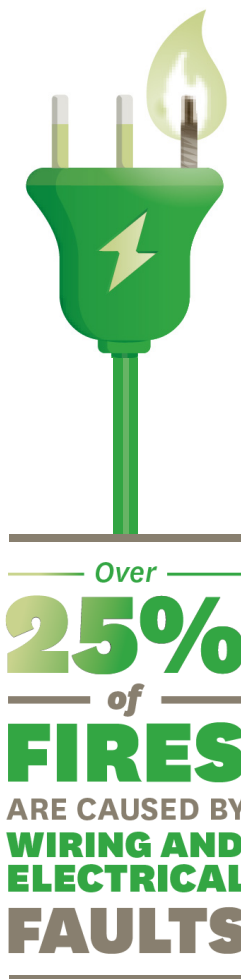
Electrical fires commonly start in the switchboard or the wiring of the house, or from your everyday appliances. This checklist has been designed to spark some simple things you can do to reduce the risk of an electrical fire at your place.

To learn more visit

www.fireandemergency.nz

www.fmg.co.nz

FMG
Advice & Insurance



More advice worth listening to.

Keep you, your family and your property safe with our advice on how to reduce the risk of house fires.



Electrical and wiring safety checklist

- ☐ Know which items use lithium-ion batteries. Ensure you charge and use them correctly.
- ☐ Use one socket per large appliance (ie. fridge, heater etc). Avoid overloading sockets.
- ☐ Check that multi-boxes or adapters have circuit breakers.
- ☐ If an item heats or cools, then it should be plugged directly into a wall socket.
- ☐ Before using an electric blanket, test it by turning it on high for a few minutes and feeling for hot spots. If you find any, replace the blanket. Also, replace any electric blanket over five years old.
- ☐ Ensure adequate ventilation around appliances and heaters.
- ☐ Regularly maintain appliances by cleaning vents and around motors, and checking their general condition.
- ☐ One socket per appliance, use multi-boxes with circuit breakers only.
- ☐ Look for electrical warning signs such as blown fuses, buzzing, charred or discoloured outlets, and switches, and flickering lights. Get faults checked by a qualified electrician.
- ☐ Regularly manage pests like rodents and birds to prevent damage to wiring.

10 ways to prevent device or battery fires

1. Avoid leaving devices charging unattended or overnight*.
2. Disconnect fully charged batteries and devices.
3. Avoid exposing devices to heat, moisture, or direct sunlight.
4. Protect your batteries from strong impacts or sharp objects.
5. Only use the correct and approved chargers for your device.
6. Charge devices away from beds and flammable materials, always charge on a hard flat surface.
7. Discard damaged devices showing signs of swelling, leakage or overheating.
8. Don't throw batteries in household rubbish or recycling. Take them to battery recycling locations.
9. Charge and store batteries away from exits and living spaces.
10. Install approved smoke or heat alarms in charging areas to help give an early warning of extreme battery, overheating or fire.

*Electric Vehicles and marine batteries may have manufacturers recommendations regarding charging overnight, please seek professional advice specific to your vehicle or boat.