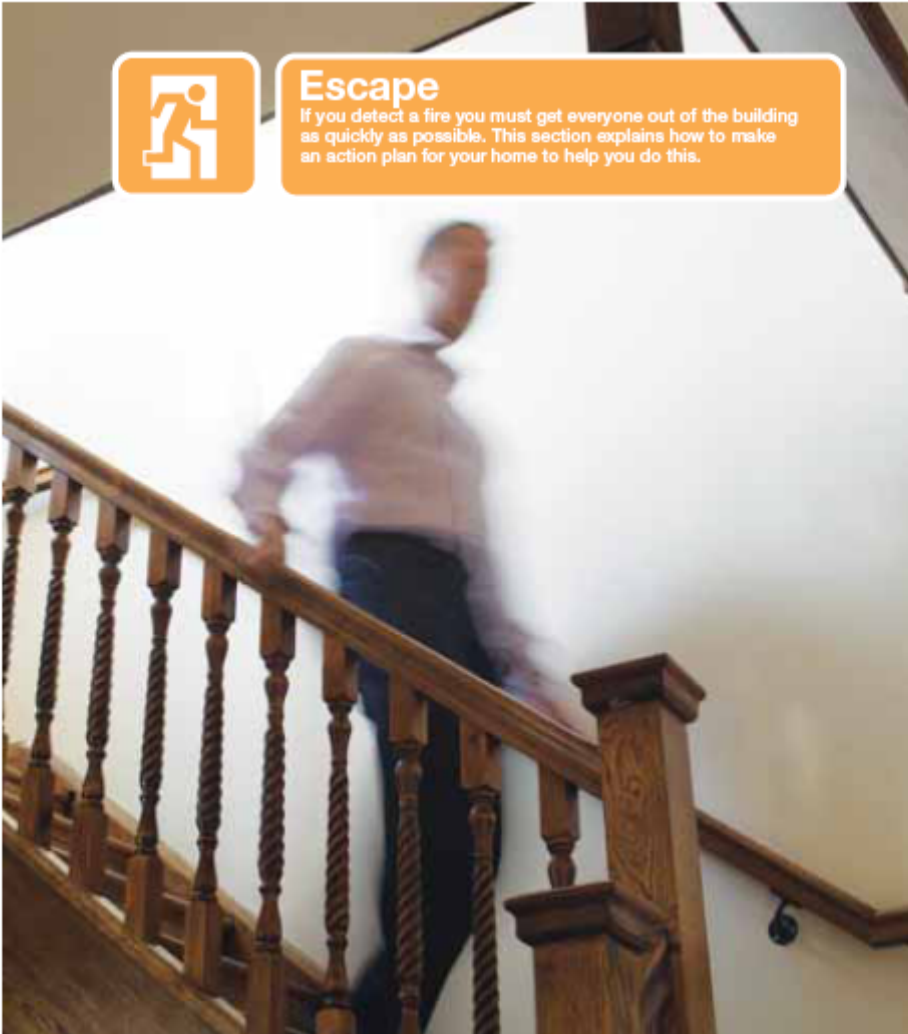




Escape

If you detect a fire you must get everyone out of the building as quickly as possible. This section explains how to make an action plan for your home to help you do this.



Escape



Escape

Planning your escape

Once a fire starts, it takes hold quickly and spreads even faster. A fire is frightening and it can be difficult to think straight, especially if your hall is filled with smoke and you're worried about getting you and your family out.

On average, people can survive for less than five minutes in a smoke-filled room. Preparing and practising a plan of action will help you to act quickly if there's a fire – it could even save your life. This section explains how to make an action plan for your home to make sure that everyone gets out safely.

Plan your escape together

- Discuss with everyone how you would get out if there were a fire. When making your plan, take account of everyone in the household, especially children and older or disabled people.
- Talk through your escape plan, and regularly remind people what to do – and what not to do – if there's a fire.
- Put a reminder of what to do somewhere where it's easily seen (for example, on the fridge door or the kitchen notice board).





Escape

Choose an escape route

- The best escape route is usually your normal way in and out of your home. Think of any difficulties you or the other people in your household may have getting out.
- Choose a second escape route as well, in case the first one is blocked. Keep all escape routes clear.
- If there are children and older or disabled people in your household, plan how you will get them out and the best order for you all to escape.





Escape

Think about creating a safe room

- If you can't escape you will need to find a room where you can wait for the Fire and Rescue Service. This is particularly important if you have difficulty moving around or using the stairs.
- If possible, your safe room should have a window which opens and a phone.

Make sure everyone knows where keys are kept

- Decide where the keys to doors and windows should be kept and always keep them there. Everyone in the household should know where the keys are kept.

Fire equipment

- Fire extinguishers and fire blankets should only be used on a small fire in its early stages and by adults who are absolutely sure they know how and when to use them. The first priority is to keep people safe by getting them out of the building and calling the Fire and Rescue Service.

