



BARBECUE SAFETY

Enjoy your barbecue but remember cooking with hot coals or gas can be dangerous. Follow our top tips to stay safe.

- Never use a BBQ indoors – as well as a serious fire risk they give off poisonous carbon monoxide fumes. In enclosed spaces these fumes can kill in minutes.
- Don't use a BBQ on a balcony. Flames, sparks, and hot embers can cause a fire and spread quickly to other parts of the building.
- Position your BBQ on level ground (not decking) and keep it well away from anything that may catch fire such as sheds, fences, or trees.
- Use approved firelighters to get it going not accelerants like petrol or paraffin.
- Avoid distractions from people around you and never leave the BBQ unattended.
- Avoid drinking alcohol if you are in charge of the BBQ.
- Keep children, pets and garden games a safe distance from the BBQ.
- Have a bucket of water or sand nearby for emergency use.
- After cooking, make sure the BBQ is cool before moving or cleaning. Even when cool, there is a risk of CO poisoning so do not bring inside.

Gas barbecues

- Change the gas cylinder outdoors – turn off all controls and valves.
- Store gas cylinders outside, protect from frost and direct sunlight.
- If you suspect a fault do not use the BBQ and seek specialist advice.

REMEMBER!

It only takes a spark to cause a wildfire during hot, dry weather putting people, homes, property and wildlife in danger. Keep safe outdoors:

- Do not use disposable BBQs during hot, dry weather; this will reduce the risk of wildfires starting.
- Check local rules for parks, woodland or other open spaces – BBQs (including disposables) may be banned from use. Take a picnic instead.
- Don't throw cigarettes out of car windows, they may land on dry grass by the roadside.
- Take all your litter home – including glass bottles. Focused sunlight can cause a fire.