

FIRE BLANKETS

Call emergency services: 0800 033 911 for assistance.

Remain calm but act quickly

This documentation is merely guidelines, suggestions or recommendations and NOT a complete list of loss-control measures; it has been compiled from information obtained via the internet from various fire and safety sites to assist in the basic learning of fire safety. The information is NOT intended to replace manuals or instructions provided by the manufacturer or the advice of a qualified professional; nor is it intended to effect coverage under any policy.



WHAT IS A FIRE BLANKET:

Fire blankets are made out of glass fibre fabric, with a thin fire resistant coating. They work by stopping the airflow to the fire, starving it of Oxygen – one of the vital ingredients that fire needs in order to keep burning. The purpose of the fire blanket is to cover the full area of the fire and therefore cut off the Oxygen supply to the flames.

WHY CHOOSE A FIRE BLANKET:

A fire blanket is ideal for extinguishing small burning pans or persons in flames. It is recommended to keep one in all type kitchens (personal, offices, factories, restaurants/hotels, caravans/sites). Clothing and hair can easily catch fire and small fires can suddenly flare up. A fire blanket is often a better option for an untrained person as they are quick, easy to use and readily available. Fire blankets do not require annual service, however, regular checks on the condition of the fire blanket and pull tags is advised. Fire blankets can help save lives and protect people from serious burns. When cooking, if a pan catches light **under no circumstances should you pour water onto the flames**. This will result in the fire spreading rapidly, often with devastating consequences. Fire blankets are therefore, the more safe and effective extinguishing method rather than the traditional wet tea-towel approach.

WHEN TO USE THE FIRE BLANKET:

A fire blanket is ideal for extinguishing cooking fat fires and can be used to wrap around people if their clothes catch on fire. As always in the case of fire, you should use caution and if there's any doubt that you can put out the fire safely, exit the room, closing the door behind you and contact: **0800 033 911** for emergency services.

WHERE TO POSITION/MOUNT THE FIRE BLANKET:

Install the fire blanket at a practical height (preferably average eye level height) for both adults and children so that the blanket can be easily released by pulling the hanging tags. Do not place any fire equipment near a stove (or heat source) as this might prevent you getting to the fire equipment safely. Mount the fire blanket together with the correct type fire extinguisher at the SABS regulation height (0.3m to 1.5m above floor level) near the kitchen entrance. This will allow easy access to the fire equipment as well as creating an unobstructed, clear escape route.

HOW TO LOCATE THE FIRE BLANKET:

Install fire blanket and fire extinguisher next to each other in an unobstructed location. Mount SABS approved symbolic signage for easy location of the fire equipment. If premises are used after hours photo luminescent signage is recommended.

WHAT SIZE FIRE BLANKET TO CHOOSE:

- 0.9m x 0.9m
- 1.0m x 1.0m
- 1.2m x 1.2m
- 1.2m x 1.8m
- 1.8m x 1.8m



**CHOOSE THE CORRECT
SIZE THAT WILL SUITE
YOUR TYPE OF BUSINESS
OR PERSONAL USE**

Purchase a fire blanket with size in mind not price. Size of the fire blanket depicts the coverage that it will have. For a larger size kitchen, consider purchasing two large fire blankets.

A large size fire blanket can be used on a small fire as well as a big fire, whereas, a small fire blanket is limited to smaller fires. **Contact our offices on 0878022891 for further enquiries.**

WARNINGS:

- Never attempt to carry a container of burning liquid
- Never attempt to use water to extinguish a flammable liquid

SAFETY:

- Familiarise yourself with the instructions for confident and correct use;
- Once the fire blanket has been placed over a small fire - remove the source of ignition (i.e. shut off or close down electrical power, gas or flames);
- Do NOT remove blanket for at least 30 minutes - call the fire department;
- Do NOT reuse dispose of and get new blanket;
- Regularly check the condition of the fire blanket and its quick release container/bag.

• First aid:

Treat all thermal burns by holding the burnt area under running water for up to 20 minutes until skin returns to normal temperature. Remove clothing from burnt area unless stuck or severe; cover burn with a non-adherent burns dressing, plastic wrap or loosely applied aluminium foil. Seek urgent medical aid.

IF SEVERE/SERIOUS DO NOT REMOVE CLOTHING.

• Smoke inhalation:

Remove casualty from area to fresh air. Sit up and loosen tight clothing. Administer oxygen if available and you are trained in its use.

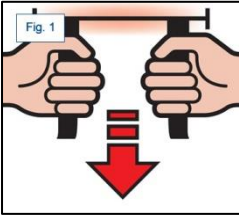
For fires in commercial kitchens it is also recommended to have a wet chemical fire extinguisher / CO2 fire extinguishers as these are the only type of fire extinguisher designed specifically for use on fires in the kitchen involving large volumes of cooking oil as in deep fat fryers.



INSTRUCTIONS: PERSONAL CLOTHING FIRE

Call emergency services: 0800033911 for assistance.

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Step 1:
Pull the tapes to release the blanket from its container.



Step 2:
Hold the blanket in a shield position and if possible wrap the blanket around your hands for protection.



Step 3:
Wrap the fire blanket around the person who is on fire to smother the flames
'Stop, Drop, Cover and Roll' procedure:

When clothing is on fire, adopt the procedure 'Stop, Drop, Cover and Roll'.

STOP: the casualty should stop running.

DROP: the casualty should drop to the floor. Wrap the fire blanket around them.
Do not throw the blanket over them.

COVER: the casualty should cover their face.

ROLL: the casualty should be rolled back and forth along the ground until flames are extinguished.



PREVENTION AND PRECAUTION DURING FIRES

IF YOUR CLOTHES / BODY CATCH FIRE THAN

STOP
DO NOT RUN, STOP
WHERE YOU ARE.

DROP
DROP TO THE GROUND.

ROLL
COVER YOUR FACE WITH
YOUR HAND AND ROLL
OVER AND OVER UNTIL
THE FIRE IS OUT.



INSTRUCTIONS: STOVE FIRE

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Turn off the source of heat if it is safe to do so, if not do this as soon as possible after the flames have been extinguished.

Ensure that you are positioned between the fire and a safe exit / escape route.

Never attempt to carry a container of burning liquid.



Step 1:

Pull down (generally) tapes/straps to remove blanket from container.

Remove the fire blanket from the container and stretch it out fully (make sure that it will cover the fire).



Step 2:

Keep the blanket at arm's length and approach the fire – looking over the top of the blanket, so you have a clear view of what you are doing. Make sure your hands are protected from the fire (shield your hands).



Step 3:

Cover the burning pan, completely smothering the flames.



Step 4:

Leave the blanket in place for at least 30 minutes to an hour before removing to avoid re-ignition.

***** After putting the blanket on the flames – leave the room, shutting the door behind you and call emergency services: **0800033911** for assistance (if you haven't done so already).

The fire department will need to assess the area and confirm it is safe for you to re-enter the building.

This is extremely important even if the fire has been extinguished.