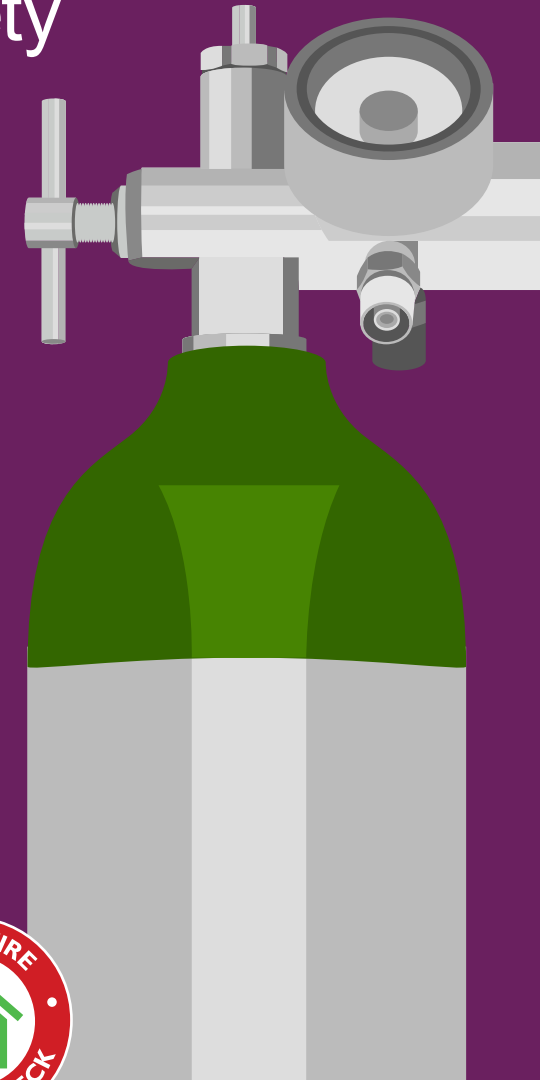




DEVON &
SOMERSET
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

Oxygen safety



For a **free** Home Fire Safety Check

Contact us

☎ 0800 05 02 999

@ firekills@dsfire.gov.uk

🌐 www.dsfire.gov.uk

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To request any information in this document in an alternative format or language please call **0800 05 02 999** or email **firekills@dsfire.gov.uk**



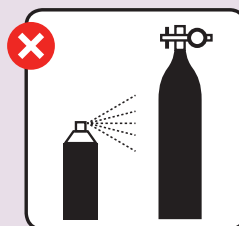
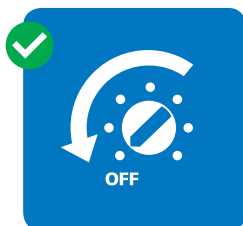
Fire safety advice for using oxygen in your home

Oxygen is a colourless and odourless gas. Oxygen makes up 21% of the air that we breath, it is an oxidizing agent which means that it helps things burn more easily and more fiercely. Higher oxygen concentrations mean greater risk.

If you are benefiting from oxygen therapy in your home, follow these important tips to help keep yourself safe from fire:

- never smoke or let anyone else smoke near you while you are using your oxygen
- keep internal doors open when using oxygen. Gases can build up and concentrate in a closed room or a confined space but can easily be dispersed in a well-ventilated room

Please note you are no longer required to inform the fire service if you use oxygen.



- turn off your oxygen supply when you have finished using it
- never smoke in bed
- never use oxygen equipment near open fires or naked flames
- never cook whilst using your oxygen
- never use any electrical appliances such as electric razors or hairdryers whilst using your oxygen
- avoid using barrier medications/creams that contain petroleum, oil or paraffin. Ask your pharmacist or care provider to recommend suitable non-flammable alternatives
- never use aerosol sprays such as deodorant or hairspray when using oxygen
- if you do smoke, wait 20 minutes after finishing a cigarette, ensuring that it is properly extinguished, before using oxygen equipment.

Storage

- Make sure that oxygen cylinders are stored safely out of direct sunlight in a well-ventilated area that is dry and away from any heat sources.
- The storage area should not be used to store paint, oil, grease or any domestic heating gases or other combustible materials.
- When storing oxygen cylinders they should be secured upright to prevent them falling over.
- We recommend that each floor of your home has a working smoke alarm and that they are tested once a week.
- In the event of a fire, call 999 and inform the operator that you have oxygen on your premises.

