

# Your guide to gas safety

You may only think about your gas appliances when something goes wrong or has broken down. While nobody wants to be left without heating or hot water, unsafe gas appliances can have a more serious impact.



### What is the Gas Safe Register?

The Gas Safe Register is the only official list of gas engineers who are registered to work safely and legally on gas in the UK, Isle of Man, Guernsey, and Jersey.

#### Who should be on the Register?

By law, anyone who comes to fit, fix or service your gas appliances, pipework and flues must be on the Gas Safe Register. Knowing your engineer is Gas Safe registered brings peace of mind that you're in safe hands.

## Find or check a Gas Safe registered engineer

There's a list of all Gas Safe registered engineers on our website: **GasSafeRegister.co.uk** or call **0800 408 5500** and one of our advisors will help you find a registered engineer in your area.

You can also check that an engineer is registered by asking to see their Gas Safe Register ID card, which will display their name, business name and details of their qualifications.

#### Who are Gas Safe Register?

As well as being the list of qualified gas engineers, Gas Safe Register is also the name of the registration body that issues a licence to engineers enabling them to legally work on gas.

Gas engineers are not employed by Gas Safe Register, we are here to make sure engineers are working safely. If you have a gas safety concern or suspect someone is carrying out gas work without registration, then we can investigate.

## Keep your home gas safe

Badly fitted and poorly serviced gas appliances can put you and your family at risk of gas leaks, fires, explosions and carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning. Follow these simple tips to stay gas safe:

Have your gas appliances checked every year by a Gas Safe registered engineer.



Check for warning signs that your appliance might not be working correctly.



If you spot any of the following, it's time to call a Gas Safe registered engineer:

- dark, sooty staining on or around your gas appliance
- floppy yellow flames instead of crisp blue ones (except for fuel-effect fires that display this colour flame)
- increased condensation inside windows
- the boiler pilot light keeps going out.

## Don't DIY or use an illegal gas worker.



If they're not on the Gas Safe Register, they're working illegally.

Don't take the risk to save a few pennies, it could end up costing you more to put things right, and put your family's lives at risk.

## Comply with Building Regulations.



You'll want to keep your Building Regulations Compliance Certificate safe, as it may be needed when you move house.

### Carbon monoxide

Carbon monoxide (CO) is released when gas appliances do not have enough oxygen to burn correctly. You cannot see, smell, or taste it and it is highly poisonous. CO can kill quickly without warning or cause serious long-term health problems.

The symptoms of CO poisoning are often mistaken for the flu, food poisoning or fatigue. However, there can be other signs that indicate CO poisoning. For example, if your symptoms occur when you are at home and get better when you leave the house, or if others in your home (including pets) experience similar symptoms at the same time.

Regular servicing can help ensure your appliances burn correctly, but to be extra safe we recommend that you install a suitable audible CO alarm marked with EN50291, the British Standards' Kitemark, or another European approval organisation's mark.

If you think you are suffering from CO poisoning, get fresh air immediately and seek medical help. Know the signs of carbon monoxide poisoning:



Headaches



Dizziness





Breathlessness

Nausea



Collapse



Loss of consciousness

### Do you rent your home?

Landlords are legally responsible for their tenants' gas safety and the gas appliances they provide.

Under The Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998 your landlord must:

- arrange for a Gas Safe registered engineer to carry out a gas safety check every year
- provide you with a copy of the landlord gas safety record before you move in and within 28 days of the annual check taking place
- maintain the gas appliances, pipework and flues they provide in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

As a tenant, you should cooperate with your landlord to make sure you allow the engineer access to the property when a safety check or service is due. When they arrive, ask to see their Gas Safe Register ID card.

Remember to also arrange for any gas appliances that you own to be checked by a qualified Gas Safe registered engineer.

If your landlord refuses to carry out their legal gas responsibilities, contact the Health & Safety Executive at:

- hse.gov.uk/gas/domestic
- J 0800 300 363



#### In a gas emergency

## Do you smell gas or suspect carbon monoxide in your home?

In a gas emergency you'll need to act quickly — turn off the gas at the meter, put out naked flames, open windows, and immediately call the gas emergency number for your area. If you feel unwell seek medical help.

#### Gas emergency contacts:

Great Britain:	0800 111 999
Northern Ireland:	0800 002 001
Isle of Man:	0808 1624 444
Guernsey:	01481 749 000
Jersey:	01534 755 555

For LPG contact your supplier directly.



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