

Fire Safety - What You Need To Know!

The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 came into force on the 1st October 2006. The regulation amends or replaces 118 pieces of legislation, the most significant being the Fire Precautions Act 1971 and the Fire Precautions (Workplace) Regulations 1999. The aim of the regulation is to rationalise and consolidate legislation into one simpler piece, leading to a safer workplace.

The Legislation places the responsibility of fire safety on the employer or 'responsible person' for that premises or building.

The 'responsible person' will need to ensure that a fire risk assessment has been Conducted to establish the risk of fire and then take steps to reduce them.

Fire certificates, which were issued under the previous regulations, will be abolished and become invalid however inspections will still continue. Failure to comply with this regulation may lead to legal action resulting in a fine or up to two years imprisonment.

Fire Risk Assessment Checklist

The following checklist can be used as a guide to aid you with your fire risk assessment and where to find a solution to reduce the risk of fire.

	YES	NO
Risk Assessment:		
1. Do you have a risk Assessment recording format?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire-Fighting and Fire Detection:		
1. Are your premises equipped with the appropriate fire fighting equipment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Is your fire fighting equipment clearly identified and locatable?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Do all employees know which fire fighting equipment to use on different types of fire?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Are nominated people trained to an acceptable level for fire fighting?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Emergency Escape Routes:		
1. Do emergency escape routes lead as directly as possible to safety?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Are all people's needs catered for in the event of emergency? (E.g. Evacuation chairs for physically impaired people)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Are emergency routes and exits clearly identified by illumination and emergency lighting?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>