

Prevent Dryer Fires



Doing laundry is likely part of your daily routine. Do you know how important taking care of your clothes dryer is to the safety of your home? With a few simple tips you can help prevent a clothes dryer fire.

Clean the filter screen after each load.

Cleaning the filter screen keeps the vent clear. When accumulated lint clogs the vent, the dryer can overheat and cause a fire.

Wash the filter screen every 6 months.

Chemical residues left by dryer sheets can clog the filter and overheat the dryer. Wash the filter with warm, soapy water and a soft brush to remove the residues.

Stay home while the dryer is in use.

Turn off the dryer before leaving the house.

Clean vents to the outdoors.

Clean the hose pipe that vents to the outdoors twice a year. Use a vacuum cleaner to clean out accumulated dust and lint.

Vacuum the motor area.

The dust and lint in the vent pipe can ignite if it gets hot enough. Vacuum the motor area if you can get to it. You may have to remove a panel.

Clean commercial dryer vents regularly.

Commercial dryers get a lot of use and will have a common venting system.

Don't dry mop heads.

The dryer's heat can ignite cleaning chemical residue on mop heads.

Keep the surrounding area clear.

Don't leave clothing or other ordinary combustibles close to the dryer. The dryer's heat may ignite them.

You are at higher risk of a dryer fire if you don't clean your lint filter and dryer vents.



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