

# Dryer Safety

## Prevent Dryer Fires

Maintain your dryer for safety's sake



### Guidelines for Dryer Safety

Fires involving clothes dryers usually are started with the ignition of something that was being dried or a by-product of drying (i.e. lint). The leading factor is the failure to clean dryer vents, ducts, and filters. Consider the following preventative guidelines:

- Follow manufacturer's operating instructions.
- Have dryers professionally installed and serviced.
- Make sure your dryer is properly grounded.
- Ensure machine is properly connected using the proper plug and outlet.
- Use rigid or flexible metal venting material to sustain proper air flow and drying time.
- Always clean the lint filter before and after each load of laundry.
- Never overload the dryer.
- Remove lint that has collected around the drum.
- Turn dryer off before you leave home or go to bed.
- Clean vent pipe at least once a year or if you notice drying time is taking longer than normal.
- Make sure air exhaust vent pipe is not restricted and outdoor vent flap opens when dryer is operating.



Clogged dryer vents, ducts, and filters are the main causes of dryers catching on fire.

Clothing is the second main cause of dryers catching on fire.

Other causes are appliance casing, unclassified soft goods, electrical wire or cable insulation, and linen.

### Additional Safety Tips:

- Clothes drying time should NOT exceed 60 minutes.
- Prior to washing, air dry any material that has come in contact with flammable substances.