

such as a kettle, food processor, coffee machine and toaster. Where there are inadequate sockets, trailing flexes will result. Twin socket outlets are preferable to single sockets as these will discourage the use of adaptors and consequent overloading of circuits.

Sockets and spur switches must be positioned well away from sink units to reduce the risk of handling with wet hands. They should also not be placed behind hobs, where arms could be burned and sleeves catch fire when reaching over a live burner.

Large appliances built into cabinets have spur switches above the worktop, connected to socket outlets behind the appliances, so that they can be remotely controlled and also be pulled out for servicing.

Gas cookers – safety aspects

Gas cookers are safer if they have automatic ignition, as the burners will light if a child accidentally turns on a control. Some cookers also have automatic re-ignition which re-lights the burner should the flame be accidentally extinguished.

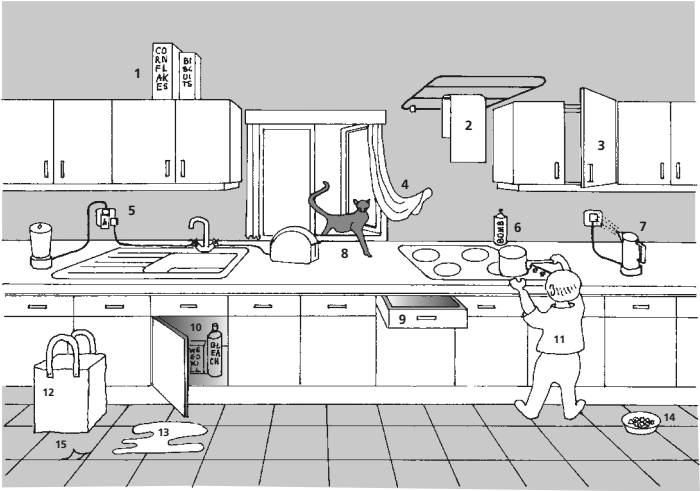
Dealing with fire

Fat catching fire in a pan is one of the most common causes of kitchen fires.

Water should never be poured on to flaming fat as this will spread the flame in an instant.

A fire blanket or an aerosol fire extinguisher should be used to smother the flames and then the burner should be switched off. Failing that, a damp cloth can be draped over the pan to cut off the air, and left in position until cool.

Aerosol cans will explode if they get too hot, and should be stored in a cool place.



- 1 Everyday food out of easy reach
- 2 Cloth drying over hob could fall and catch fire
- 3 Cupboard door left open could bang someone's head
- 4 Hob too near open window – curtains could catch fire
- 5 Socket too near sink and is overloaded with flex trailing behind sink
- 6 Aerosol bomb could explode from heat from hob
- 7 Kettle is playing steam over electric socket
- 8 Cat is going to walk over food preparation worktop
- 9 Drawer full of sharp knives left open to child
- 10 Poisonous substances accessible to child
- 11 Saucepan handle left sticking out for child to reach
- 12 Shopping bag left about on floor – could cause fall
- 13 Spilt liquid not mopped up making floor slippery
- 14 Cat's food left accessible to child
- 15 Unstuck down tile could trip someone up

Disaster kitchen