



FIRE SAFETY FOR CARAVANS AND MOBILE HOMES

Make your next trip fire safe by following these vital steps.

Gas cylinders

- Turn off all gas cylinders while the caravan is being towed or campervan engine is on.
- Keep gas cylinders outside unless a properly designed storage cupboard has been fitted. Turn off all appliances not being used before going to bed.
- Gas cylinders, pipes and fittings should be checked regularly, particularly after driving on country roads.

Escape plan

- Make sure you know where escape windows and hatches are and how they work - keep them and all doors clear of obstructions.

Cooking

- Never leave cooking unattended.

Storage

- Store all clothes and bedclothes well away from the kitchen area.
- Store all flammable liquids outside the caravan or mobile home.
- Ensure that the extension lead for connecting electricity supply to your caravan is in good condition

and of suitable size for the current load. Damaged cords must be replaced immediately.

Smoke alarms

- Fit photoelectric smoke alarms with a hush button. Caravan specific ones are available from hardware stores.

Photoelectric is a type of smoke alarm, not a brand.

A hush button will desensitise the alarm for a short period of time during cooking to reduce false alarms.

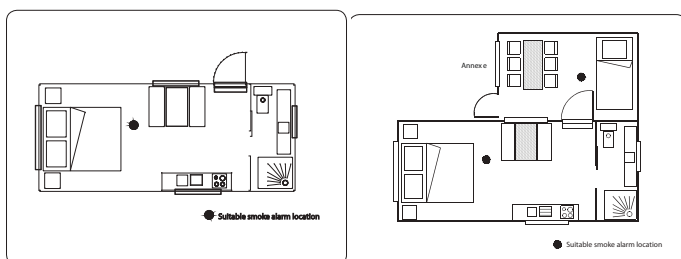
Battery powered photoelectric smoke alarms can be installed by anyone with home handy person skills.

Other fire safety equipment

- Ensure you have a fire extinguisher and fire blanket. The extinguishers and fire blankets should be located near an exit where they are easily accessible and where escape is also an option.
- Make sure fire extinguishers are charged, inspected and regularly serviced.
- Check electrical appliances for frayed cords and any other visible damage.
- Fit a fire blanket in the caravan.
- Test safety switch before each trip.

Where do smoke alarms need to go?

It is recommended that you have at least one working photoelectric smoke alarm inside the van where the bed is, and one also in the annex if you sleep there. You can buy smoke alarms from most hardware stores, large supermarkets, electrical suppliers and a variety of retail stores.



The smoke alarm must meet Australian Standards 3786 (AS3786) however Queensland Fire and Emergency Services recommends you install a photoelectric type smoke alarm that is powered by a 10-year, non-removable, non-replaceable battery.

For more information or advice -
CALL 13 QGOV (13 7468) or go to www.fire.qld.gov.au.