

Chip Pan Safety



GREATER MANCHESTER
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE



PREVENTING PROTECTING RESPONDING

www.manchesterfire.gov.uk

Chip pan safety in the home

Fire and Rescue Services have for a long time recognised that cooking chips in a traditional chip pan accounts for more lives and injuries than any other type of cooking fire in the home.

Did you know?

- Most accidental fires in the home start in the kitchen.
- Chip pan fires are a major contributing factor for fire deaths.
- Cooking chips whilst drinking alcohol increases the risk.
- Oil and heat is a recipe for disaster.

What can you do to become safer?

Fire and Rescue Services would like you to **'Ban the Pan'** altogether from your kitchen and for you to choose safer, healthier options:

- ✔ Use a thermostatically controlled deep fat fryer instead of a chip pan.
- ✔ Try the chip shop or other take away, particularly if it is late and you have had a drink.
- ✔ Microwave chips are quicker to cook and require little cleaning up afterwards.
- ✔ Use oven chips, it is far healthier and safer.

If you really must cook chips using a chip pan after reading all of this information, please consider the following:

- ✘ Never fill the pan more than one third full of fat or oil.

- ✘ Never leave a pan unattended with the heat switched on.
- ✘ Make sure that food is dried thoroughly before placing it in hot oil.
- ✘ Never put food in a smoking pan - it is too hot and needs to cool down.
- ✔ A thermostatically controlled deep fat fryer is a far safer alternative than a chip pan.

What do you do if you have a chip pan fire?

- ✔ Stay calm, turn the heat off if it is safe to do so and allow it to cool.
- ✔ Do not try to move the pan; people have died from injuries trying to move red hot pans of oil.
- ✔ **Never ever throw water on the pan;** this will cause the oil to expand into a fire ball and could kill you.
- ✔ Never try to tackle a chip pan fire yourself unless you have the equipment and training. Leave it to the Fire and Rescue Service.

You should

- ✔ Leave the room, close the door behind you, get everyone together and leave the building by a safe route.
- ✔ Call 999 and ask for the Fire Service and never ever go back into a burning building.

Don't gamble with your life - stay safe and 'Ban the Pan' from your kitchen!

**For free home safety advice, call us now on freephone
0800 555 815**

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