



DID YOU KNOW?

- Did you know that you are 3 times more likely to die in a fire at home than anywhere else?
- Last year 400 people die in fires and another 18,000 are injured in the UK.
- 75% of all fire casualties occur in people's own homes.
- In the UK we severely underestimate the danger of fire and do little to protect ourselves from it.
- It is a fact that there are as many fires each year as there are burglaries.
- Most people spend hundreds, if not thousands of pounds on locks and security measures to protect our homes from break-ins but are reluctant to spend even a few pounds on fire safety.
- Very few people are hurt in break-ins, however, the same is not true for fires.

ABOUT FIRE SPRINKLERS

- Fire sprinklers are simple devices that are individually operated directly by heat from the fire.
- When a fire starts, a plume of hot gases rise to the ceiling. If a sprinkler is present a glass bulb or solder link in the sprinkler gets hot and breaks when it reaches a specific temperature. (Typically 57°C which releases a protective cover and at 68°C a sprinkler head releases a flow of water over the fire.
- The sprinkler head breaks up the water into carefully controlled droplets, which penetrate the fire plume and cool the burning material below its ignition point, thus putting the fire out.
- Only the sprinkler/s directly over the fire are activated.
- The sprinklers are connected to pipework, usually filled with water, which is supplied either from water mains or from a storage tank via a pump or pressurisation.
- When a sprinkler operates, the flow of water in the pipework operates a flow switch or pressure switch, which in turn operates the alarm system.
- The flow of water from the sprinkler system is small, usually less than 1/100th of the water that would have been used by the fire service.
- Sprinklers do not go off accidentally and are only triggered by real fires. Burnt toast does not affect them.
- Sprinklers are very reliable and only 1:16,000,000 exhibit any form of manufacturing defect.

Design, installation, commission and maintenance of fire sprinklers and water mist systems