



Preventing Dryer Fires

Consumer Reports shares four easy steps to reduce the risk of dryer fires

According to [data](#) compiled by the National Fire Protection Association, US municipal fire departments respond to almost 14,000 home fires involving clothes washers and dryers each year. Between 2010-2014, washer/dryer fires caused \$238 million in property damage, 440 civilian injuries and 13 civilian deaths.

Failure to properly clean and maintain washers and dryers is the most common contributing factor to fires involving washers and dryers. The experts at Consumer Report are recommending homeowners follow these easy steps to prevent dryer fires.



1. Do not use your dryer without a lint filter, and ensure the filter is clean before each use.
2. Use Rigid or flexible metal vent pipes to sustain proper air flow and prevent lint accumulation
3. Inspect and clean dryer ducts at least annually
4. Use caution when washing clothes stained with flammable chemicals or substances

For more information, read the [full article by Consumer Reports](#) or visit the [NFPA's portal](#) about washer and dryer safety.

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