



Fire Safety
Module 4



Health & Safety
Essentials

Registered charity number 207890

Overview

This resource has shown how our understanding of fire and combustion has enabled development of appropriate controls and technologies to protect life and property.

The basic risk assessment process is used to evaluate what needs to be done to both building structure and fittings within it to reduce the risk of fires and allow safe escape if this is necessary.

A primary justification for learning about fire safety is to ensure that everyone understands their part in maintaining the arrangements both physical and organisational.

The **5 Step Risk Assessment Process** as given by the Health and Safety Executive is similar to the process that can be used for fire safety:

1.	Identify the hazards	sources of ignition, fuel, oxygen
2.	Identify people at risk	people in and around premises, special risks
3.	Evaluate, remove, reduce	Assess and develop controls, reduce risk to people
4.	Record, emergency plans, training, instruction	Record significant findings, emergency plan
5.	Review	regularly assess and keep up to date

The next level of detail from this fire safety module is to focus on chemical safety for carrying out lab scale reactions, and assessing the safe storage, handling, transport and use of dangerous substances.

This will require an understanding of inherently safe process design, scale-up issues together with the storage handling and transport of chemicals.

This is covered in the **Health & Safety Essentials: Chemical Safety – Storage, Handling, Use and Transport in the Laboratory**.