



# The **safe** space standard.



**Following national fire safety laws introduced after the Grenfell tragedy, housing providers must now ensure all communal areas are kept clear to reduce fire risk and protect lives.**

## **What it means**

We're introducing a Safe Space Standard in all apartment buildings.

Items left in shared spaces can fuel fires, produce deadly toxic smoke, block escape routes and create trip hazards, so they must be removed to keep everyone safe. This means no personal items can be left in communal areas, including corridors, hallways, shared entrances or the area around your front door.

These spaces must remain completely clear at all times. If you live in one of our independent living villages, the standard does not apply to the communal lounge or village centre. However, it still applies to all other communal areas, corridors and escape routes.

## THE SAFE SPACE STANDARD

# What must be removed?



### Doormats

These can cause trips or block doors in an emergency. Please move your doormat inside your flat, just behind the door.



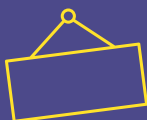
### Furniture and storage

Any items like benches, shelves, small tables or shoe racks can obstruct exits or be fuel for a fire. All furniture must be kept inside your home.



### Wreaths, door signs and decorations

These can catch fire or melt, creating thick black smoke that blocks escape routes. Decorate the inside of your apartment instead.



### Pictures, mirrors and wall art

Anything fixed to walls or placed on tables in communal areas can fall, break, or block the way. These are welcome inside your apartment.



### Plants and plant pots

These can be knocked over or block narrow walkways, creating a hazard during evacuations. Feel free to enjoy them inside your flat.



### Non-standard doorbells or door numbers

These may damage fire doors or doorframes, which are specially designed to contain fire. Please remove any unauthorised fixtures. Smart tech should only be used with written approval.

**Please keep yourself and your neighbours safe by following the safe space standard. Items creating a safety risk may be removed and destroyed.**



## Need to get in touch?

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