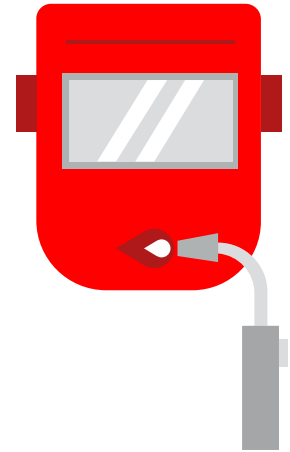


## Hot Tips for Hot Work

Welding. Open flames. Grinding. Cutting. There are lots of work tasks that can generate flames or heat. And other than protecting yourself, there are a few things that you can do manage the risks of a serious fire.

Before hot work takes place, it's worth taking a few minutes to consider the safest way to approach the work that needs to be done. Using a permit system is the recommended option, but we realise a formal system isn't always appropriate or practical. But there are easy safeguards you can put in place.



### Reach for your Fire Safety equipment

- Know where your nearest fire alarm is and how to activate it.
- Make sure there's a working fire extinguisher and refresh your memory on how to use it.
- Check if there is a fire hose that you can easily access.
- You don't have eyes at the back of your head – have a second person act as a fire watch whilst work takes place.

### Hot work gear

- Make sure your gear is in good condition and clean.
- Ask yourself if hot work is the best way to go, there might be another option.

### Assess your area – look around

- Sweep floors and dampen down with water, if appropriate.
- Remove flammable and combustible materials at least 10 metres from the work area or shield with non-combustible covers.
- Cover combustible wall and floor openings so stray sparks or hot debris don't set fire to timber floors, walls or fall between cracks.
- Suspend non-combustible covers beneath elevated work areas so that sparks and hot debris doesn't fall onto combustibles below.
- Ensure you have good ventilation, be aware of flammable vapours if you're in an enclosed space.

### A fire may not start right away – get comfortable and hang around

- Stay put for 30 minutes
- Double check the area and any potential flash points.
- Contact our Risk Management team if you want blank Hot Work permits to use.



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