

# CARBON MONOXIDE KILLS DON'T LET IT BE YOU



Kim (21) and her baby were poisoned by her oil heater

Rex tried to raise the alarm

Edith (82) collapsed and died from carbon monoxide poisoning caused by her coal-fired stove

Ali (6) killed by carbon monoxide from a faulty gas fire

**ANYONE  
CAN  
BE AT  
RISK**

Jake (20) died because his landlord missed the annual gas safety checks

Rhona (68) killed by her badly-fitted gas boiler, installed by an unqualified engineer

Her grand-daughter Olivia (2) also died

**PROTECT**  
*your family with annual safety checks*

**CONNECT**  
*an audible carbon monoxide alarm*

**REJECT**  
*appliances fitted by unqualified people*

**SUSPECT**  
*CO poisoning if you recognise the signs*

- 24-hour national gas emergency number: 0800 111 999
- Gas emergency minicom: 0800 37 17 87
- Solid fuel advice number: 0845 6014 406
- Health & Safety CO advice line: 0800 300 363
- OFTEC oil-fired advice line: 0845 65 85 080
- Gas Safe Register information: 0800 408 5500

#### Chronic health problems?

Visit your GP or phone your NHS information service

- NHS Direct: 0845 46 47 (minicom: 0845 606 4647)

## what is carbon monoxide?

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colourless, odourless, tasteless, poisonous gas which can be emitted by faulty appliances powered by any fuel that burns.

## how can I protect myself?

Once a year, service all appliances powered by any fuel that burns: gas, coal, oil, petrol, wood etc. Sweep chimneys and flues. Landlords are legally bound to arrange annual gas safety checks and suppliers offer free yearly gas checks to some vulnerable customers.

## can't I just fit an alarm?

CO alarms are important but ARE NOT a substitute for servicing or annual safety checks. Audible CO alarms SHOULD comply with BS EN 50291 and carry a British/European approval mark eg



## who can work on my appliances?

Services and checks must ALWAYS be carried out by registered installers. DO NOT USE an appliance unless you are certain it's been professionally installed.

## signs of carbon monoxide

Look out for gas appliances burning with a yellow/orange flame that's normally blue, extra condensation, pilot lights blowing out, sooting and/or yellow stains round appliances.

## symptoms of carbon monoxide

- 'flu-like' symptoms
- chest or stomach pains
- erratic behaviour
- nausea and/or vomiting
- breathlessness
- feeling tired or drowsy
- giddiness/headaches
- visual problems

**Suspect CO poisoning? Turn appliances off. Open doors and windows. Get everyone outside into fresh air immediately.**

**In a medical emergency, don't delay: phone 999**



**GAS**



**OIL**



**SOLID FUEL**

**Always use a qualified, accredited professional**

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Further info: [www.energynetworks.org/CO](http://www.energynetworks.org/CO)