



June 2021

## Don't let load shedding compromise your safety and security.

Make sure all batteries are charged and working. Load shedding can dramatically reduce the lifespan of your alarm's battery.

Ensure that your electric fence continues to function during load shedding – the electric fence energiser should have a backup battery. Ensure that the backup battery is regularly tested.

Keep the keys to motorised gates in an accessible place and have good quality padlocks available to use as a backup.

Ensure that you are alert when entering or leaving your home in the evenings, as the street lights and your outside lighting will not be functioning during load shedding. Keep a torch in your car.

Try and keep your cell phone fully charged at all times.

If you are using a generator, never operate it indoors, including the garage or any confined area - it produces carbon monoxide, which can be fatal.

If you leave your home or office during load shedding, ensure that all electrical devices are switched off or unplugged.



Winter brings increased fire risks to homes and businesses. Fire places are used more often, and electric and gas heaters are often left unattended.

- Install a fire or smoke alarm. Test your alarm and change the batteries at least once a year.
- > Never leave fires, candles, or any form of naked flame unattended.
- Never leave children unsupervised around fires, candles or matches.

Keep a fire blanket and suitable extinguisher in the kitchen. A fire blanket can smother flames either on a person or on a stove.

If you have gas, oil or coal-burning appliances, be aware of carbon monoxide. Ensure your home is adequately ventilated and equipment is regularly serviced and maintained.

- Keep heaters away from furniture and curtains.
- > Turn off portable heaters, as well as gas and electric fires before retiring for the night.
- If you have an open fireplace, make sure the fireguard is secure and in place.





