

Stakeholder Pack

Help keep families safe: Lithium-ion battery fire prevention



Introduction

What you can do to help

Many portable devices such as laptop computers, mobile phones, children's toys, e-scooters and e-cigarettes may contain rechargeable lithium-ion batteries. They are lightweight, energy dense and long-lasting but can be more volatile than traditional batteries.

Most modern devices with rechargeable batteries contain lithium-ion batteries. Occasionally, if a lithium-ion battery is improperly charged, handled, stored or disposed of there is a risk of overheating, catching fire or explosion. This also increases the risk of a house fire, garage fire or personal injury.

FRV invites your school to share important safety messaging via your school newsletter, social media, or other communication channels. Suggested content can be found on the following pages, and we are happy to adapt it to suit your needs.



School newsletter copy

As the school year continues, many students are using devices such as laptops, tablets, phones, e-bikes and e-scooters. Most of these devices contain lithium-ion batteries, which have become part of everyday life, but need to be used safely.

Fire services are responding to an increasing number of fires caused by lithium-ion batteries, often caused by incorrect charging or leaving devices unattended. That's why fire safety at home is especially important during the school year.

You can help reduce the risk by:

- Only using the charger and battery designed for each device
- Unplugging devices once fully charged
- Never charging devices on soft surfaces like beds or couches
- Not charging devices overnight, or when no one is home
- Charging larger devices such as e-bikes and e-scooters away from living spaces and keeping them clear of exits
- Regularly checking devices and stopping use if a battery looks damaged, swollen or overheats

You can watch Fire Rescue Victoria's safety video [here](#)

It's also important to make sure smoke alarms are working and tested every month. Fire Rescue Victoria recommends installing smoke alarms in bedrooms, living rooms and near areas where devices are charged—because working smoke alarms save lives.

For more tips on lithium-ion battery safety, visit:

<https://www.frv.vic.gov.au/battery-safety>

A few simple habits can help protect your home and your loved ones.

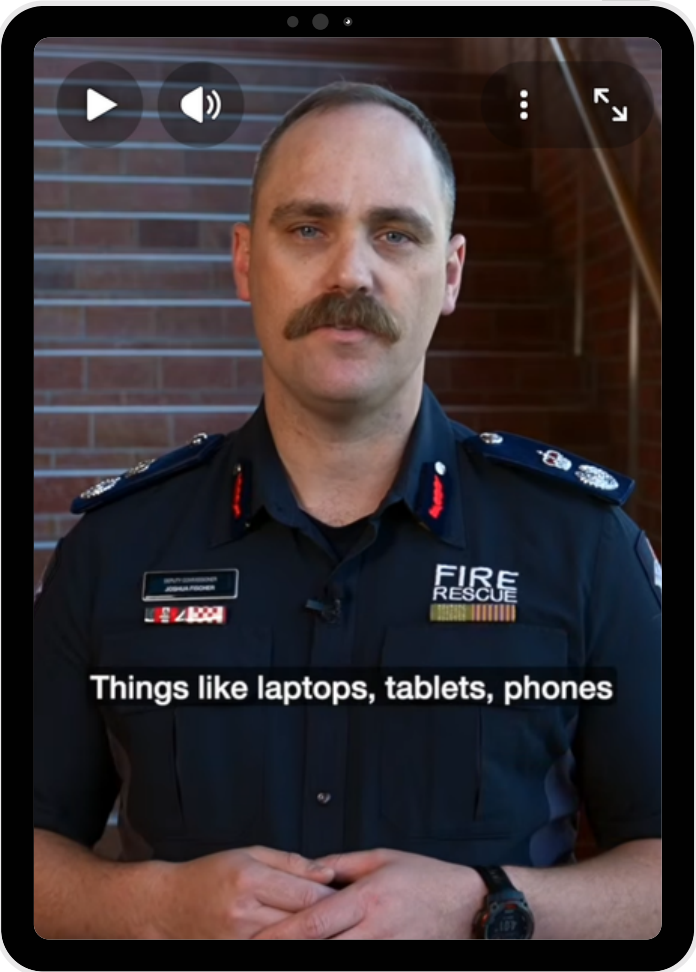


Social media copy

As the school year continues, many students are using devices like laptops, tablets, phones, e-bikes and e-scooters. These everyday devices use lithium-ion batteries and need to be used safely. Fire Rescue Victoria are encouraging us to always use the correct charger, unplug once fully charged, and never charge on beds or couches—especially overnight. It's also important to test your smoke alarms monthly, including in bedrooms and near charging areas, because working smoke alarms save lives.

[Access the YouTube video here](#)

[Download the video here](#)



Contact us

For more information, please visit <https://www.frv.vic.gov.au/battery-safety>
or contact us via CommResAdmin@frv.vic.gov.au

