

Too Hot to Handle

Hair
Straighteners

Burn

...an ongoing problem
in the Emergency Department



IT DOESN'T ALWAYS TAKE A FLAME TO BURN

The average set of hair straighteners can reach in excess of 200 degrees - hot enough to fry an egg! They can take as long as 40 minutes to cool down. Horrific injuries can occur very quickly because children's skin can be fifteen times thinner than adults.

Follow this simple Safety Code...

Switch them off straightaway
Slide them into a thermal bag
Store them out of reach

FIRE AND ELECTRICAL SAFETY

Fires can start suddenly and spread quickly, so remember that hair straighteners and other heating devices can damage your bedding, carpets, furniture and set fire to your home, putting lives in danger. There are a few simple hints you can follow to prevent fires.

- Do not use appliances with worn or damaged flexes
- Don't wire flexes together
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions
- Look for the CE mark when you buy electrical equipment

Fit approved smoke detectors on each floor and test them weekly.

For more information please visit www.esc.org.uk

"Turning straighteners off, storing them in a thermal bag out of reach and doing it all straight away is a simple strategy to stop inquisitive children suffering"

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA)

"Burns from hair straighteners can be serious enough to require admission to hospital, referral to plastic surgery and surgical intervention. Burns caused by hair straighteners are preventable"

Dr Julie-Ann Maney, The Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children.

"It is easy to forget straighteners remain hot for a long time, especially when rushing about. Hair straighteners are often a popular present so make them a safe present by supporting this campaign"

Home Accident Prevention Northern Ireland (HAPNI)

