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NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE HALOGEN DOWNLIGHTS



FACT

Over the past five years there have been a number of fires in NSW related to halogen downlights. Halogen downlights create a lot of heat and if they are not correctly insulated, installed and maintained they can cause a fire.

SAFETY TIPS

- Always use a licensed electrical contractor to install the halogen downlights and ensure the lights meet the current Australian Standards.
- Never install halogen downlights near structural timber members such as roof, ceiling or floor beams.
- Ensure the lights and transformer are not covered by ceiling insulation such as pulped paper, rock wool, fibreglass batts or polyester batts. The heat from the lights can cause the insulation to smoulder or ignite.
- When having renovations or work done to the home, ensure the existing ceiling insulation does not come in contact with the halogen downlights.
- Newly installed insulation materials in ceiling and floor cavities should be checked for adequate clearance around downlights and transformers.
- Check and maintain the lights to prevent a build up of wind blown debris, such as dust and leaves, in the roof cavity near the downlights.
- Vermin often like to nest within roof and floor cavities. As the halogen lights and ceiling insulation provide heat for

ADDITIONAL SAFETY TIP

- Smoke alarms were designed to detect smoke in the house – not in the ceiling cavity.



For more information contact your local fire station or visit:
www.fire.nsw.gov.au www.rfs.nsw.gov.au www.esa.act.gov.au

