

Protective Clothing

07

ARE YOU BUSHFIRE READY?

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WHAT TO WEAR IN A BUSHFIRE?

WEAR PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

Being in or near a bushfire has many risks and the potential to cause injuries. Wearing the clothing you would normally wear on a hot summer's day will not provide you with enough protection during a bushfire.

During a bushfire everyone must wear protective clothing to avoid injury from smoke, sparks, embers and extreme heat (radiant heat). Cover as much of your skin as you can with two layers of loose fitting clothing. It will be very hot, so avoid tight fitting, heavy clothes and synthetics; natural fibres are best.

PERSONAL PROTECTION FOR ALL MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN YOUR EMERGENCY KIT.



A special filter mask should be included in your emergency kit for people in your family who suffer respiratory conditions such as asthma, as a last resort. These people should leave well before the fire front arrives.

Clothes should be made of pure wool, heavy cotton drill or denim.

WHAT TO WEAR

- Loose fitting clothes made from natural fibres like pure wool, heavy cotton drill or denim
- Long sleeved shirts, trousers, jeans and overalls
- Sturdy leather shoes or boots preferably without elastic sides (not brand new, worn in)
- Wool or cotton socks
- A wide brimmed or hard hat
- Leather or canvas gloves
- Goggles or glasses to protect your eyes from ash and embers
- A moistened face mask to protect your face from ash and other particles

DO NOT WEAR

- Synthetic clothing
- Singlets
- T-shirts
- Short sleeved shirts
- Shorts
- Dresses or skirts
- Sandals or thongs
- Stockings or synthetic socks
- Wet clothing that can steam and cause burns.

For more information visit www.dfes.wa.gov.au or contact **DFES Community Engagement** 9395 9816

