

I live in a forest area or close by:

# Is my home at risk in the event of a forest fire?

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*Read on to find out more about this hot topic!*

A MAJOR RISK

# Fire doesn't just happen to other people...

Forest fires constitute the **most common natural risk in the Mediterranean region**. Higher density residential areas and the accumulation of vegetation throughout forests have resulted in zones that are particularly vulnerable to wildfire, especially during the summer period.

Within these sensitive zones, and during high fire risk periods, the houses located in direct contact with forest or nearby can:

## BE THE CAUSE

of ignition of wildfires, due to accidental or negligent behaviour with barbecues, gardening works, cigarette butts, fireworks, etc.

AND  
OR

## BE VICTIMS

of forest fires that threaten to destroy homes, cars or even the citizenship safety!

*Place here a map of your own region concerned by this document*

[describe here the most fire prone area into your region]

**Municipality name, Location, Month Year**

*picture caption*

*Place here a photography of a relevant forest fire*



**X%**

of forest's fires are due to the action of human



KEY FIGURES

# [number] fires / year in the Mediterranean region.

Almost half of these could have been avoided by applying certain good practices



**Human carelessness is the primary cause of fire**

The impact on homes could be significantly reduced



**By protecting your home you can significantly reduce the risk of having your property and memories destroyed by fire**

*Fire is an integral part of the Mediterranean forest landscape. It is a privilege to live in a forest area, but doing so also constitutes a **risk** and carries certain **responsibilities***



**Municipality name, Location, Month Year.**  
[Number] ha burnt.

*Forest fire cause :*

*Place here a photography of a relevant forest fire*

Since [year of reference], an average of [NUMBER] ha have been destroyed by fire every year in the [region of reference]

**[NUMBER] ha PER YEAR**

*Place here a photography of a forest fire*

**Municipality name, Location, Month Year.**  
[Number] ha burnt.  
*Forest fire cause :*

# What about you? Are you playing with **fire**?

**ASSESS YOUR VULNERABILITY LEVEL** as regards the risk of forest fire by answering the questions below.

Refer to the results at the bottom of the survey to find out whether **YOU ARE SUFFICIENTLY PROTECTED**.



## 1 / LOCATION OF YOUR HOUSE

**Where is your home located?**

Number of points :

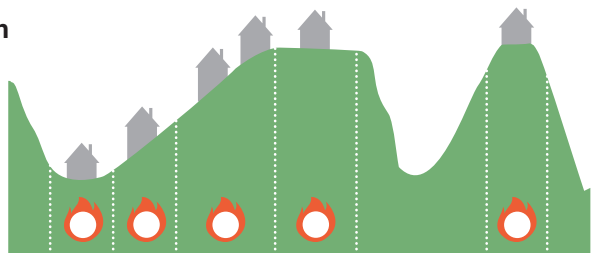
**The topography of the landscape has a significant impact on the speed at which wildfire spreads.**

At the bottom of a valley?

On a slope?

At the top of a hill?

Assess your home's location with respect to the landscape and note down the corresponding number of points.



**Do you have close neighbours?**

Number of points :

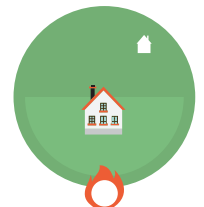
**Density of the residential area: an important factor to be taken into consideration.**

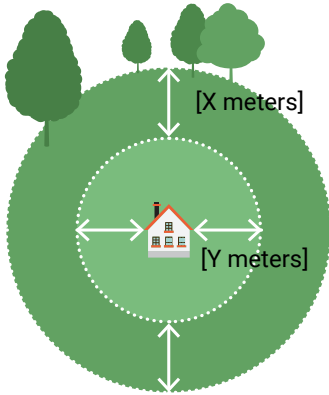
A high-density residential area?

Average density?


Isolated?


Note down the number of points that correspond most accurately to your situation.





## THE HOUSING DEFENSE ZONES TO BE AWARE OF

 → Vegetation in the immediate vicinity of your house

 → Vegetation further away from your house

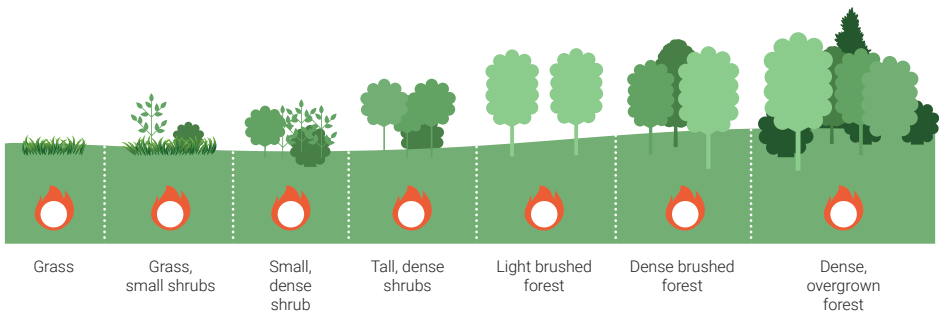
**What type of vegetation can be found in the immediate vicinity of your house?**

Number of points:

**And further away?**

Number of points:

Add up all the points corresponding to the types of vegetation found



**The type and amount of vegetation in the immediate vicinity of your home is the main factor that determines the spread of fire!**



## 2 / YOUR HOUSE

**By protecting your home, you can significantly reduce its risk of being destroyed.**

- The roofing and gutters are often littered with old vegetal matter .....
- The building materials and joineries (gutters, shutters, door and window frames) are made of plastic .....
- The building materials and joineries are made of wood.....
- The building materials and joineries are made of metal or aluminium .....
- The chimney and/or air vents are not protected.....

Number of points:



## 3 / YOUR GARDEN AND SURROUNDING LAND

**An appropriate outdoor environment helps reduce the spread of fire.**

- You store flammable materials outside your home (paint, gas canister, firewood, garden furnitures, and so on) .....
- The house has a veranda or a bay window without shutters .....
- The property is surrounded by a hedge .....
- The property is not enclosed, or is surrounded by a fence .....
- The property is surrounded by a wall .....
- There are trees located less than 3 metres from the sides of the house, or which overhang the roof .....
- The property has a barbecue installed on a non-flammable floor surface (slabs, concrete, etc.).....
- The property is closed by a remote-controlled gate.....
- The property is closed by a manually opened gate, or is not closed at all.....
- The driveway is wide enough for two cars to pass .....
- The driveway is not wide enough for two cars to pass .....

Number of points:



## 4 / CLEARANCE AND BRUSH

**By regularly clearing and brushing the vegetation on your land, you can reduce the spread of fire.**

The vegetation of the property has not been cleared and brushed.....

The vegetation of the property has been cleared and brushed.....

Number of points:



RESULTS (NUMBER OF POINTS)

# Are you sufficiently protected?

Add up the points obtained in the 4 categories of questions to determine your level of protection in the event of a forest fire.



**BETWEEN X AND X** Your home is **quite well protected** from fire risk. Make sure you continue to clear and brush your land correctly and don't let your guard down!

**BETWEEN X AND X** Your home is **vulnerable** in the event of fire. You need to implement some safety measures to ensure your house and its inhabitants are sufficiently protected. Contact your local council for more information!

**BETWEEN X AND X** Your home is **very vulnerable** in the event of fire. You must act quickly to provide protection for yourself and your family. You can significantly reduce the potential spread of fire by clearing and brushing the vegetation on your land. Contact your local council as soon as possible for more information!

**OVER X** Your home is **extremely vulnerable** in the event of fire and you must take immediate action. Your home **is not protected** and may be destroyed by wildfire. **Contact your local council straight away:** they will provide you with the essential rules and recommendations to be aware of and applied in order to **protect your home in the event of forest fire.**

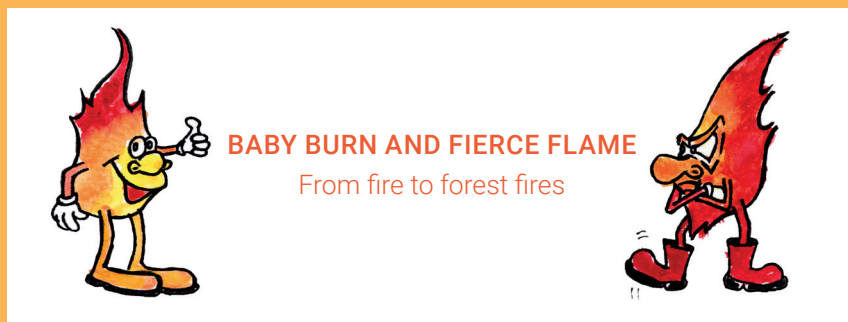
# Children of all ages can understand the way **fire** works

Fire risk is an integral part of life in the Mediterranean region.

All areas can be subject to the risk of wildfire.

In order to live in these areas safely and without fear, everyone must be aware of the potential risks and know which practices to avoid and which protection measures to implement in and around their home.

All of this begins at a very early age.



Get to know Baby Burn and Fierce Flame and download their story here <http://efirecom.ctfc.cat> and [www.lessonsonfire.eu](http://www.lessonsonfire.eu)

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<http://efirecom.ctfc.cat> and [www.lessonsonfire.eu](http://www.lessonsonfire.eu)