Your household laundry contains electrical items such as washing machines and dryers and is often used to store cleaning products and chemicals.

It is important to store chemicals safely and maintain your laundry electrical appliances to prevent fires, burns and chemical accidents.

**Chemical safety**

- Store chemicals safely and out of the reach of children
- Keep all chemicals in their original bottles and packaging and use only as per the manufacturers instructions
- Do not mix chemicals
- Wash any rags or containers after use and before throwing in the rubbish. Chemical residue or fumes can ignite fires or make them more volatile.

In the case of skin/eyes being chemically burnt, chemicals being swallowed or ingested or fumes being inhaled, seek immediate medical advice by either calling Triple Zero (000) or the Poisons Information Line on 13 11 26.

**Electrical appliances**

- Keep electrical appliances and cords away from water
- Always let the clothes dryer complete its cool down cycle before stopping
- Clean the lint filter after each use
- Don’t use a clothes dryer without a lint filter or with a lint filter that is loose or damaged
- Clean the back of the dryer regularly to prevent a build up of lint
- Have the clothes dryer and washing machine installed and serviced by a professional.
- Don’t overload the clothes dryer
- Turn your clothes dryer off when you are not home or sleeping
- Make sure that the clothes dryer has adequate ventilation to prevent overheating
- Do not put items in the clothes dryer that have come in contact with flammable substances such as cooking oil, petrol, paint, alcohol etc.