

Building Protection Zones

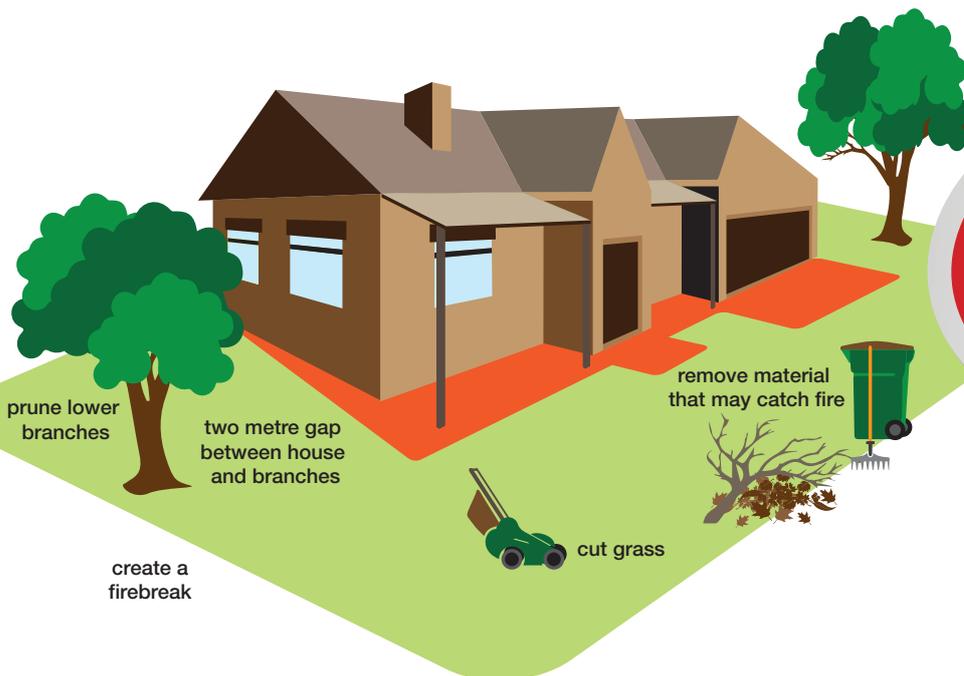
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ARE YOU BUSHFIRE READY?

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PREPARING YOUR HOME AND PROPERTY FOR A BUSHFIRE

You should prepare your home to survive the passage of a bushfire, even if your plan is to leave. A well prepared and constructed house is more likely to survive a bushfire than an unprepared one. **Firefighters cannot defend every property and are unlikely to defend a poorly prepared property; remember their lives are at risk too.**



A Building Protection Zone (BPZ) is an area extending for **20 metres** around a building where there is reduced flammable material. This means there is less material that can catch on fire, improving the chances that your home may survive a bushfire.

DID YOU KNOW?

Firebreaks have a number of purposes.

They are used to stop the spread of a bushfire and are also used by firefighters to gain access around all areas of your property and as a place from which to fight a fire.

Remember that firebreaks must be wide enough and have enough vertical clearance to let a firefighting truck pass.

Maintain your firebreaks to ensure your property can be defended during a fire.

- Create a minimum 20 metre building protection zone** around your home and other buildings. This area needs to be cleared of all rubbish, long dry grass, bark and material that may catch fire.
- Prune lower branches** (up to two metres off the ground) to stop a ground fire spreading into the canopy of the trees.
- Clear vegetation** around your property to create a fire break, particularly the overhanging branches. Make sure you meet your local government's firebreak requirements.
- Cut grass** to less than 10 centimetres high and prune shrubs to remove dead material.

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

