

## One Point Advice

### Dealing with Fires

かさい はっせい  
火災が発生したら

In order to limit the damage caused by earthquakes, we have to be careful about fires, which have been responsible for a lot of injuries and deaths here in Japan. Of course it is impossible to prevent fires in all situations, but we need to do what we can.

If a fire breaks out in your home:

- 1) The first thing is to let everyone know. “Fire” in Japanese is “*kaji da!*” So shout this out to call for help.
- 2) Next, use a fire extinguisher to try and put out the flames (if it’s not too large). If you manage to extinguish the fire, make sure you shut off the gas.
- 3) If the fire is more than you can handle, especially if the flames spread to the ceiling, get out as fast as you can.
- 4) Even if it’s a small fire, call Emergency Services at 119, say “*kaji desu*” (fire), give them your address and tell them of any nearby landmarks, and if you can, tell them what is burning.

To prevent fires in general:

- 1) Make sure there aren’t any flammable objects or materials around outside your house, and keep any garages or sheds (if you have them) locked.
- 2) Never smoke in bed, and keep your ashtrays as empty as possible.
- 3) Make sure that matches and lighters are out of the reach of children.
- 4) Make sure nothing heavy is resting on electrical cords, and don’t allow the cords to become tangled. Occasionally clean plugs to keep them from accumulating dust.