

Fire Stopping Awareness

Course specification

Welcome

National Safety Academy is an innovative training provider offering courses and qualifications for safety professionals.

It's important to us that education is accessible. Not just in terms of cost, but also in the way it is delivered.

Learning shouldn't be a battle with complicated textbook paragraphs. It shouldn't be dry PowerPoint slides. It shouldn't be technical information without real-life context. It shouldn't be commitment to classroom dates, time away from work and family, and fixed exam schedules.

Instead, National Safety Academy believes learning should feel natural and engaging. It should be challenging, but in all the right ways. It should be comfortably balanced with personal and professional life. Most importantly, it should prepare and assess the learner in a way which reflects their real-life responsibilities outside of a learning environment.

It's your education, so do it your way.

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About the course

This course gives you the knowledge to recognise fire stopping, understand why it matters and know what to do when something doesn't look right.

Fire stopping is often hidden above ceilings, behind panels and in service risers, and it's easily damaged when new cables, pipes or ducts are pushed through walls and floors. A single unsealed gap can let fire and smoke bypass a compartment and put lives at risk.

You'll learn what fire stopping is, how it protects people and buildings, and who is responsible for it. You'll get familiar with the most common fire stopping products, where to find them in a building, and the tell-tale signs that something is wrong, such as expanding foam around services or a missing pipe collar.

This is an awareness course, built around real site photographs. It's about spotting the warning signs, recording what you've seen and knowing when to pass it on to someone competent.

At a glance

Level

Awareness

Duration

4–6 hours

Delivery

Online, self-directed with supporting course materials

Assessment

Online knowledge test

Also part of

Certificate in Passive Fire Protection

Price

£125 + VAT

Next step

Fire Stopping Inspection

About the course

Who is this course for?

The NSA | Fire Stopping Awareness course is for anyone who manages, maintains or works in buildings and needs to understand fire stopping, or whose work could affect it.

These individuals might include:

- Responsible Persons
- Building, estates and facilities managers
- Maintenance teams
- Electricians, plumbers and M&E contractors
- Data, telecoms and security installers
- Site managers and supervisors
- Housing and property managers
- Safety professionals

You don't need a technical background or any previous qualifications to take this course.

Who is this course not suitable for?

This is an awareness course. It won't qualify you to inspect fire stopping or judge whether an installation complies; our Fire Stopping Inspection course covers that. It isn't installer training, and it doesn't cover the design or specification of fire stopping, structural fire protection, or fire doors (covered by our Fire Door Inspection course).

Your learning journey

Learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, you will be able to:

- ✔ Explain how fire and smoke spread through buildings, and how compartmentation and fire stopping limit that spread.
- ✔ Outline the key legislation and guidance that apply to fire stopping, and who is responsible for it throughout the life of a building.
- ✔ Describe why fire stopping needs evidence of performance, and what third-party certification and good records look like.
- ✔ Recognise common fire stopping products, and products that should not be used as fire stopping.
- ✔ Identify where fire stopping is typically found in a building and the common defects to look out for.
- ✔ Know what to record, who to tell and when to escalate concerns to someone competent.

Your learning journey

Duration

This course is **approximately 6 hours**, made up of a mixture of guided learning, assessment and independent research. You can split these hours up whichever way works best for you. You might be able to take a day to complete the course in one go, or alternatively you can fit study in around other commitments in your life.

From the date of enrolment, you'll have **6 months** to complete your course.

How is it delivered?

Our courses are designed to be delivered via self-directed, distance learning.

This means you can navigate through the course content in your learning portal online and study whenever and wherever works best for you.

Your learning journey

Course content

Our course syllabus ensures progressive learning, building from foundational principles to practical application. You will study **8 blocks** that guide your development step by step.

Welcome	A welcome to the course, academic malpractice policies, and what to expect from your learning journey.
What is fire?	How fires start, develop and spread – the fire tetrahedron, ignition sources and the stages of fire growth.
What is fire stopping?	Discover how compartmentation protects people and buildings, how it gets breached and where fire stopping fits in, with lessons from real-world compartmentation failures.
Legislation and guidance	Get to grips with the key fire safety laws and guidance across the UK, including the Fire Safety Order, Fire Safety Act and Building Safety Act, and what they mean in practice.
Who is responsible for fire stopping?	Understand who is responsible for fire stopping throughout the life of a building, from installation to occupation and maintenance, and why competence matters.
Evidence and certification	Learn how we know fire stopping works, what third-party certification tells you and what good records look like.

[Continued]

Types of products	Get familiar with the most common fire stopping products, including sealants, mineral wool batts, pipe collars and wraps, mortars and pillows, and the products that should never be used as fire stopping.
Types of system	Learn where to find fire stopping in a building: where services pass through walls and floors, at joints and gaps, and in hidden voids and cavity barriers.
Putting it into practice	Bring it all together: manage fire stopping in occupied buildings, spot common defects, know when to escalate and work through a real-site case study.
Assessment 1	
ID check	
Certificate	

Assessment

How will I be assessed?

NSA assessments are designed to reflect real life, and enable you to demonstrate the skills that are required in a workplace. They are designed to measure your understanding of key concepts, your ability to apply knowledge in real-world situations, and your critical thinking skills.

Our Fire Stopping Awareness course consists of one assessment in total:

Assessment 1 | Assessment 1

The knowledge test takes place at the end of the course. You'll have 60 minutes to answer 30 multiple-choice questions covering all eight blocks, including scenario-based questions drawn from real site examples. The "Check your understanding" quizzes at the end of each block will help you prepare.

Assessment

Completing your assessments

When you reach the relevant points in the course, you will be able to complete your assessments when you are ready from within the learning portal.

The timescales to complete each assessment are as follows:

Assessment 1	60 minutes

Grading and feedback

Assessment 1 will be marked instantly once you reach the end of the test. You will need to answer at least 80% of the questions correctly to pass. You can attempt it as many times as you need, with each resit charged at £15 + VAT.

> **We use a Pass/Refer grading system**
>
> This simply means:
>
> **Pass** – you've met all the assessment criteria.
> **Refer** – one or more of the assessment criteria was not met.

Assessment

Resubmissions

Remember, a ‘refer’ isn’t a fail – it’s an opportunity to refine your knowledge so you can be even more effective in keeping people safe in real life.

If you don’t reach the pass mark first time, go back over the blocks you found trickiest and retry the “Check your understanding” quizzes. When you’re ready, you can resit the knowledge test at any time within your 6-month access period, after payment of the resit fee.

Late submissions

You can take the knowledge test whenever you’re ready, as long as it’s within your 6-month access period. If you think you won’t finish the course in time, please let our learner support team know as soon as possible to discuss your options.

Certification

Once you have passed all of the required assessments, you will just need to complete our identity verification checks before your digital certificate is issued.

Hard copy certificates are available on request for a fee of £20 + VAT.

Support

What support will I receive?

Your learning journey will be supported with our digital workbook using real-life examples, case studies and videos. Our learning materials use everyday language that just makes sense – the first time you read it.

You will navigate through the course content in your learning portal online. To support your learning, you'll also have access to:

- ✔ Consolidation activities at the end of each block to test your understanding.
- ✔ Community forums to learn and share knowledge with your peers.
- ✔ Learner support team for queries around your enrolment, policies and procedures.

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Support

Our community

Our community is designed to be a supportive and collaborative environment. Connect with fellow safety professionals, share experiences, and ask questions. Parts of our community are open to everyone, while others are exclusive to course participants.

You will be automatically enrolled in the relevant areas of the community upon purchasing your course. Feel free to introduce yourself and start a conversation.