

# Usage guidance for a popcorn machine in the kitchenette

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 [devblogs.microsoft.com/oldnewthing/20121009-00](http://devblogs.microsoft.com/oldnewthing/20121009-00)

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My colleague [KC Lemson](#) tipped me off to a sign hanging next to a popcorn machine in one of the kitchens:

**Please do not leave popcorn kettle on while unattended. The fire truck will come, and they don't want any popcorn.**

A friend of mine happened to have a chat with a fire fighter who used to be assigned to the fire station nearest to Microsoft main campus. According to him, the top three reasons for being called to a Microsoft building are (in no particular order)

- Burnt popcorn.
- Somebody has a panic attack and mistakes it for a heart attack.
- Somebody pulls the fire alarm because they are under a lot of stress because they missed a deadline, and they think pulling the fire alarm will buy them some time. (Where do they think they are, college?)

This week is [Fire Prevention Week](#).

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