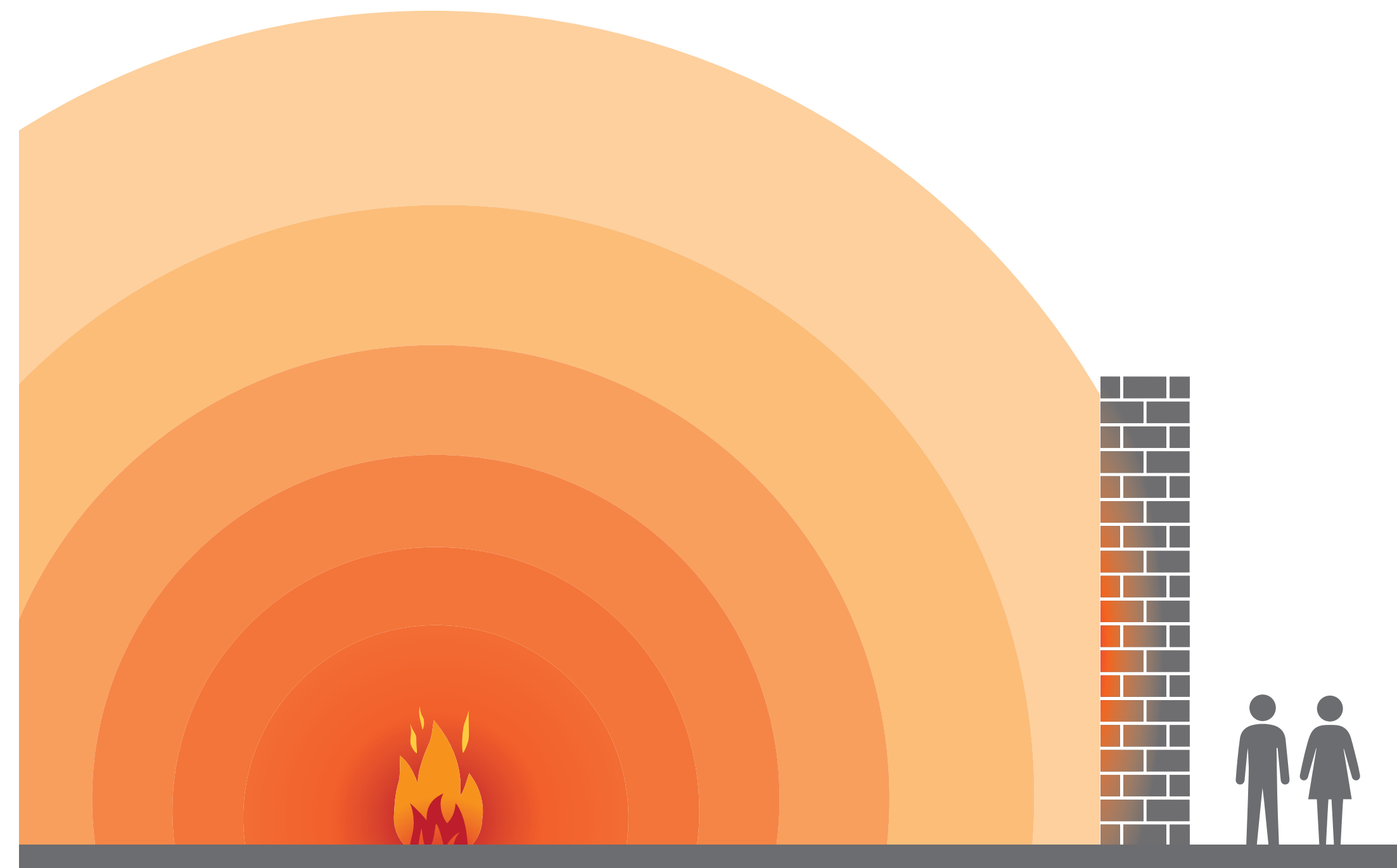


# RADIANT HEAT



## > KEY POINTS

- Radiant heat is the heat that you feel from a fire (campfire or heater).
- It is invisible and travels in straight lines.
- The heat that radiates from a bushfire is very intense.
- Radiant heat can ignite exposed surfaces without direct flame contact.
- The best protection from radiant heat is distance.
- If the distance from the fire is doubled, the radiant heat load can be reduced by four times.
- A solid object, such as a brick wall, and suitable clothing can offer some protection from radiant heat. But they may not save your life.
- Radiant heat can crack or break windows, allowing embers to enter a building.
- You can greatly reduce radiant heat and direct flame contact by carefully managing the vegetation around your home.
- Radiant heat is the biggest killer of people and animals in a bushfire.

### Questions for discussion

#### **Describe some of the properties of radiant heat.**

(Travels in straight lines, is invisible, can be blocked by solid objects, is very dangerous in large amounts).

#### **How might you shield yourself from radiant heat?**

(get behind a brick or concrete wall; stay inside a building; cover up exposed skin (long sleeved shirt and pants made of cotton or wool; leather gloves and sturdy boots); move away to a safe place away from the fire – leave before a fire is nearby).