



# Home Heating Safety



Heating equipment is a leading cause of home fires during the months of December, January and February. Most home heating fire deaths involve space heaters.

**The 3 Foot Rule!** Keep anything that can burn at least three feet from the heat.

**Chimneys need care!** Get them inspected and cleaned once a year!

## Candles can start a fire.

- Always extinguish candles before leaving the room.
- Kids and pets can inadvertently injure themselves by knocking over candles . Try alternative, flame-less candles for a safer option.
- Never leave flames, candles or fireplaces, unattended.



## Basic Safety Precautions

- Turn off portable heaters when leaving the room or going to bed.
- Have a three-foot kid free zone around fire places and space heaters.
- Keep furniture, curtains and pillows at least 12 inches from baseboard heaters.
- All fuel-burning equipment should be vented outside your home.
- Carbon Monoxide (CO) is a poisonous, odorless gas from burning fuel. CO poisoning can kill you.
- Install smoke and CO alarms on every floor, in each bedroom and outside of sleeping areas.





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## Fireplaces & Woodstoves

- Chimneys and heating systems should be inspected, cleaned, and repaired each year before use.
- Always use a sturdy metal fire screen to contain sparks.
- Keep combustibles at least 3 feet from the fireplace.
- Clean out cooled ashes and place in a metal container.



## Portable Heaters

- Keep portable heaters 3 feet away from combustible items.
- Always place portable heaters on flat surfaces and plug directly into the wall, not an extension cord.
- Always turn off the heater when leaving the room or going to sleep.

Choose a portable heater with temperature control and an automatic shutoff device.

