

PROPANE SAFETY









Please read and follow the safety instructions in this manual. Share this information with your family to help keep everyone safe and to reduce the risk of serious and potentially fatal injury, fire, or explosion. Please keep and store in a safe place.

Este folleto contiene información importante acerca de la seguridad relacionada con el gas propano. Pida su versión en español a su vendedor de gas propano.

READ THIS FIRST

IF YOU SMELL GAS OR SUSPECT A GAS LEAK

-  **NO FLAMES OR SPARKS!** Immediately put out all smoking materials and other open flames. Do not operate lights, appliances, telephones, or cell phones. Flames or sparks from these sources can trigger an explosion or a fire.
-  **LEAVE THE AREA IMMEDIATELY!** Get everyone out of the building or area where you suspect gas is leaking.
-  **SHUT OFF THE GAS AT THE TANK.** Turn off the main gas supply valve on your propane tank, if it is safe to do so. To close the valve, turn it to the right (clockwise).
-  **REPORT THE LEAK.** Once you are safely away from the gas leak, call your propane retailer right away. If you cannot reach your propane retailer, call 911 or your local fire department.
-  **DO NOT RETURN TO THE BUILDING OR AREA** until your propane retailer, emergency responder, or qualified professional determines that it is safe to do so.
-  **GET YOUR PROPANE SYSTEM CHECKED.** Before you attempt to use any of your propane appliances, your propane retailer or a qualified professional must check your entire propane system to ensure that it is leak-free.

What Does Propane Smell Like?

Propane has a foul odor that has been compared to garbage, sewage, a skunk's spray, or a dead animal. Propane manufacturers add the smell deliberately to help alert customers to propane leaks, which can create a safety hazard.



Take the Sniff Test

Scratch and sniff the blue circle. The odor is similar to propane odor. Have everyone in your family take the sniff test to learn what propane smells like.

Carbon Monoxide and Your Safety

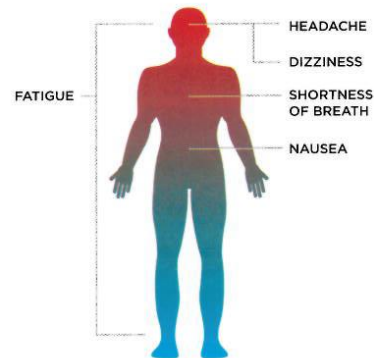
What is Carbon Monoxide (CO)?

You cannot taste or smell carbon monoxide, but it is a very dangerous gas produced when any fuel burns (see page 11 for more information).







CARBON MONOXIDE CAN BE DEADLY! High levels of carbon monoxide can make you dizzy or sick. In extreme cases, it can cause brain damage or death.

SYMPTOMS OF CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING INCLUDE:



IF YOU SUSPECT CARBON MONOXIDE IS PRESENT, ACT IMMEDIATELY!

-   If you or a family member shows physical symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning, get everyone out of the building and call 911 or your local fire department.
-  If it is safe to do so, open windows to allow entry of fresh air, and turn off any appliances you suspect may be releasing carbon monoxide.
-  If no one has physical symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning, but you suspect that carbon monoxide is present, call your propane retailer or a qualified professional to check carbon monoxide levels and your propane equipment.

PROPANE SAFETY BASICS

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Make Time for Safety
Propane Facts
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Odor Loss
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Carbon Monoxide and Your Safety
To Help Reduce the Risk of Carbon
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SECTION 1 // PROPANE SAFETY BASICS

Make Time for Safety

Propane is a safe, economical, clean-burning, and versatile fuel when properly used. This manual is designed to give you and your family the information you need to safely and comfortably enjoy all the benefits that propane can deliver.

ONLY YOU CAN KEEP YOUR FAMILY SAFE, so be sure that all family members review the important safety information in this manual.

Regardless of the type of energy you use, safety is extremely important. With propane — as with electricity, natural gas, fuel oil, gasoline, or any other energy form — you need to understand how your delivery system and appliances work, and what to do in case of a leak or other safety-related emergency.

Propane Facts

Propane (also called LPG — liquefied petroleum gas — or LP gas) is a liquid fuel stored under pressure. In most systems, propane is vaporized to a gas before it leaves the tank. Severe “freeze burn” or frostbite can result if propane liquid comes in contact with your skin. In its natural form, propane is colorless and odorless. To make propane easier to detect in the event of a leak or spill, manufacturers deliberately add a chemical compound to give it a distinctive smell.







Propane is flammable when mixed with air (oxygen) and can be ignited by many sources, including open flames, smoking materials, electrical sparks, and static electricity.

Propane vapors are heavier than air. For this reason, they may accumulate in low-lying areas such as basements, crawl spaces, and ditches, or along floors. However, air currents can sometimes carry propane vapors elsewhere within a building.

TIP:

After reading through this manual, please take a few minutes more to share it with your family. It is important that everyone in your family understands how to use propane safely.

IF YOU SMELL GAS OR SUSPECT A GAS LEAK

-  **NO FLAMES OR SPARKS!** Immediately put out all smoking materials and other open flames. Do not operate lights, appliances, telephones, or cell phones. Flames or sparks from these sources can trigger an explosion or a fire.
-  **LEAVE THE AREA IMMEDIATELY!** Get everyone out of the building or area where you suspect gas is leaking.
-  **SHUT OFF THE GAS AT THE TANK.** Turn off the main gas supply valve on your propane tank, if it is safe to do so. To close the valve, turn it to the right (clockwise).
-  **REPORT THE LEAK.** Once you are safely away from the gas leak, call your propane retailer right away. If you cannot reach your propane retailer, call 911 or your local fire department.
-  **DO NOT RETURN TO THE BUILDING OR AREA** until your propane retailer, emergency responder, or qualified professional determines that it is safe to do so.
-  **GET YOUR PROPANE SYSTEM CHECKED.** Before you attempt to use any of your propane appliances, your propane retailer or a qualified professional must check your entire propane system to ensure that it is leak-free.

Can You Smell It?

It may be hard for some people to smell propane for the following reasons:

- They have a cold, allergies, sinus congestion, or another medical condition.
- Their sense of smell is reduced due to use of tobacco, alcohol, or drugs.
- Tobacco smoke, cooking odors, musty or damp smells, and other strong odors can mask the smell of propane.
- As people age, their sense of smell can become less sensitive.
- If the smell of propane is present in the air over a period of time, "odor fatigue" can occur. The nose "gets tired," and a person no longer smells the propane odor.
- The propane smell may not be strong enough to wake up someone who is sleeping.
- The propane smell may be in a location (basement or attic) where it is not detected by people in other areas of the building.
- A phenomenon called "odor loss" can occur — an unintended reduction in the concentration of the odor of propane (as explained on page 10).



Recognizing the Smell of Propane

Propane has a foul odor that has been compared to garbage, sewage, a skunk's spray, or a dead animal. Propane manufacturers add the smell deliberately to help alert customers to propane leaks, which can create a safety hazard.



Take the Sniff Test

Teach everyone in your home or building what propane smells like by using **the blue circle on the page opposite of the inside front cover**. You can also ask your propane retailer for a sniff of the gas at the tank.

Odor Loss

ODOR LOSS CAN DIMINISH PROPANE'S SMELL.

Odor loss is an unintended reduction in the concentration of the odor of propane, making it more difficult to smell.

SITUATIONS THAT CAN CAUSE ODOR LOSS INCLUDE:

- Air, water, or rust in a propane tank or cylinder can reduce propane odor concentration.
- If the propane is leaking underground, its passage through soil may reduce the smell of propane.
- The propane odor may stick to the inside surfaces of gas piping and distribution systems and possibly other materials.

Propane Gas Detectors



CONSIDER INSTALLING GAS DETECTORS.

Under some circumstances, you might not smell a gas leak. Propane gas detectors are designed to sound an alarm if they sense propane, even if the odorant cannot be detected. It is recommended that you consider installing one or more gas detectors listed by Underwriters Laboratories (UL) in your home. Detectors can provide an extra measure of safety.

FOLLOW MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS.

Follow the manufacturer's instructions regarding use. If a detector is sounding an alarm, treat it as an emergency and act immediately, even if you do not smell propane.

TRUST YOUR NOSE. Never ignore the smell of propane, even if no detector is sounding an alarm.



SINCE THERE IS A POSSIBILITY OF ODOR LOSS OR PROBLEMS WITH YOUR SENSE OF SMELL, YOU SHOULD RESPOND IMMEDIATELY TO EVEN A FAINT ODOR OF GAS.

SECTION 1 // PROPANE SAFETY BASICS

Carbon Monoxide and Your Safety

WHAT IS CARBON MONOXIDE? Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless, tasteless, and poisonous gas. Smoking a cigarette; running an internal combustion engine; and burning candles, fuel oil, wood, kerosene, natural gas, and propane may produce carbon monoxide. High levels of carbon monoxide can be produced when fuels are burned incompletely.

WHERE DO HIGH LEVELS OF CARBON MONOXIDE COME FROM?

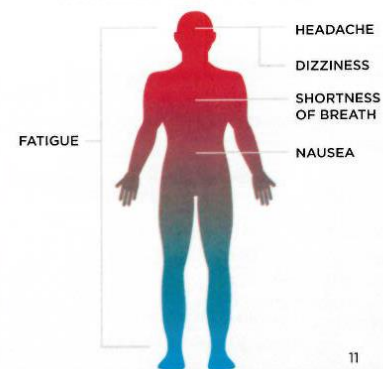
High levels of carbon monoxide can be generated by internal combustion engines or by appliances that are defective or improperly installed, operated, or maintained. Carbon monoxide can also enter a home if an appliance venting system or chimney becomes blocked (for example, by a bird's nest).



CARBON MONOXIDE CAN BE DEADLY! High

levels of carbon monoxide can make you dizzy, give you headaches, or cause flu-like symptoms (see the diagram below). In extreme cases, it can result in brain damage or death. Young children; the elderly; people with heart disease; and those under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or medication are particularly susceptible to carbon monoxide poisoning.

SYMPTOMS OF CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING INCLUDE:



IF YOU SUSPECT CARBON MONOXIDE IS PRESENT, ACT IMMEDIATELY!

1



If you or a family member shows physical symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning, get everyone out of the building and call 911 or your local fire department.

2

If it is safe to do so, open windows to allow entry of fresh air, and turn off any appliances you suspect may be releasing the carbon monoxide.

3

If no one has physical symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning, but you suspect that carbon monoxide is present, call your propane retailer or a qualified professional to check carbon monoxide levels and your propane equipment.

To Help Reduce the Risk of Carbon Monoxide Poisoning:

- Have a qualified professional check your propane appliances and venting systems annually, preferably before the heating season begins.
- Carbon monoxide detectors are designed to sound an alarm when they sense excessive levels of carbon monoxide in the air. For an extra measure of safety, it is recommended that you consider installing a UL-listed carbon monoxide detector on each level of your home. Be sure to follow the manufacturer's instructions regarding use.
- Never use a gas oven or range-top burners to provide heating.
- Never use portable heaters indoors, unless they are designed and approved for indoor use.
- Never use a barbecue grill (propane or charcoal) indoors for cooking or heating.
- Regularly check your appliance exhaust vents for blockage.
- Keep chimneys, flues, and vents free of debris such as leaves and animal nests.
- Keep chimneys, flues, and vents free of snow and ice.
- Always open the chimney flue damper when you use your fireplace.
- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions for placement and use of vent-free appliances, including fireplaces and logs.
- Never run an internal combustion engine such as your car, lawn mower, generator, or snow blower in enclosed areas such as your garage.



SOME SIGNS OF IMPROPER APPLIANCE OPERATION THAT CAN GENERATE HIGH CARBON MONOXIDE LEVELS:

- Sooting, especially on appliances and vents
- Unfamiliar or burning odor
- Increased moisture inside of windows
- Yellow flames (see page 16)

SECTION 2 // SYSTEM SAFETY

SYSTEM SAFETY

2

Running Out of Gas
Lighting Pilot Lights
Appliance Maintenance
Appliance Connectors
If You Move or Get a New Appliance
Tampering with Appliances or
Propane Equipment



Running Out of Gas



DO NOT RUN OUT OF GAS. SERIOUS SAFETY HAZARDS, INCLUDING FIRE OR EXPLOSION, CAN RESULT.

- If an appliance valve or a gas line is left open when the propane supply runs out, a leak can occur when the system is recharged with propane.
- Air and moisture can get into an empty or depleted storage tank, which can cause rust buildup inside the tank. Rust can decrease the concentration of the odor of propane, making it harder to smell.
- If your propane tank runs out of gas, any pilot lights on your appliances will go out. This can be extremely dangerous.

A LEAK CHECK IS REQUIRED. Many states require the propane system to be checked for leaks before turning on the gas. Contact your propane retailer or a qualified professional to perform a leak check and turn on the gas.



SET UP REGULAR DELIVERY. Establish a regular delivery schedule with your propane retailer.



PERIODICALLY CHECK THE FUEL GAUGE on your propane tank to ensure you do not run out of gas.



NEVER TURN THE GAS ON AT YOUR PROPANE TANK. Contact your propane retailer or a qualified professional to check for leaks, turn on the gas, and re-light pilot lights on the appliances.

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Lighting Pilot Lights



IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED that a qualified professional light any pilot light that has gone out.



WHAT IS A PILOT LIGHT? Some propane appliances have a pilot light — a small, constantly burning flame inside the appliance. (Appliances without a pilot light often have an electronic ignition instead.) If your appliance has a pilot light, it is an important safety feature. The pilot light ignites the main burner when needed.

WHEN A PILOT LIGHT GOES OUT. A pilot light that repeatedly goes out — or is difficult to light — may be signaling that there is a problem with the appliance or with your propane system. If this occurs, do not try to fix the problem yourself. Contact a qualified professional to evaluate the appliance. Accidents and serious injuries can occur when customers attempt to fix a pilot light problem on their own.

SECTION 2 // SYSTEM SAFETY



IF YOU ATTEMPT TO LIGHT A PILOT LIGHT YOURSELF, YOU ARE TAKING THE RISK OF STARTING A FIRE OR AN EXPLOSION. MANY SERIOUS INJURIES OCCUR WHEN PEOPLE ATTEMPT TO LIGHT PILOT LIGHTS.

If you choose to light your pilot lights, proceed with great caution and follow these rules:

- Carefully follow all of the manufacturer's instructions and warnings concerning the appliance.
- If the appliance is in a basement or closed room, thoroughly ventilate the area before lighting the pilot.
- **DO NOT** smoke or have any source of ignition (such as flames or spark-producing materials) in the area before lighting the pilot.
- Be especially alert for the smell of propane. Sniff at floor level before lighting a pilot.
- **IF YOU SMELL GAS, DO NOT ATTEMPT TO LIGHT THE PILOT LIGHT.**
- **DO NOT** allow any extra or unnecessary people (especially children) to remain in the room or area of the building where you are lighting a pilot.
- **DO NOT** try to light pilot lights in any area where other odors may make it difficult for you to detect the smell of a propane leak.
- **DO NOT** light the pilot if a musty or damp smell persists. These conditions can mask the smell of propane.
- **DO NOT** apply force or use tools on the pilot light or its control. This could cause damage that leads to gas leakage. Use only your hands to operate knobs, switches, or buttons.
- **DO NOT** attempt to let air out of gas lines by opening a valve or fitting inside a building or enclosed space. You may release gas and not be able to smell it.
- **DO NOT** apply oil to a sticky knob or button on a gas control valve. Oil can cause the control valve mechanism to stick and malfunction.

Appliance Maintenance

MAINTENANCE IS IMPORTANT. All appliances using propane must be maintained properly in order to operate safely, properly, and efficiently.



LEAVE IT TO THE EXPERTS. Only a qualified professional has the proper training to install, service, maintain, and repair your appliances. Make sure you have a qualified professional install and service your appliances.



ANNUAL INSPECTION IS IMPORTANT. Contact a qualified professional to perform an appliance inspection.

BE SURE YOUR APPLIANCES CAN "BREATHE" PROPERLY.

Regularly check the vents of your appliances to be sure that flue gases can flow easily to the outdoors. Insects, birds, and small animals sometimes build nests in vent pipes. Other obstructions such as snow or ice may also occur. If you see evidence of this, call a qualified professional. Also, clear the area around your appliance to be sure plenty of air can reach the burner for proper combustion.

NEVER store combustible materials near appliances.



WATCH FOR YELLOW FLAMES OR SOOT BUILDUP.

When appliances are operating properly, propane burns with a blue flame. If you see yellow flames, or notice significant amounts of soot on any equipment, the gas may not be burning completely. This can create carbon monoxide, a colorless, odorless, and poisonous gas. Contact a qualified professional if any of the above conditions occur.

SECTION 2 // SYSTEM SAFETY

Appliance Connectors

PROPERLY INSTALL AND MAINTAIN CONNECTORS.

The final section of the system that brings gas to your appliances is the appliance connector. It is important that all appliance connectors are properly inspected, installed, and maintained by a qualified professional. Replace the connector immediately if damaged, deteriorated, or exposed to fire.

HAVE NEW CONNECTORS INSTALLED WHEN MOVING OR REPLACING APPLIANCES. Do not reuse a gas connector or fittings on another appliance or on the same appliance if it is moved to another location.

USE ONLY APPROVED APPLIANCE CONNECTORS. Make sure that all connectors and gas piping/tubing that bring propane to your appliances are installed by a qualified professional and approved by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

HAVE OLDER APPLIANCE CONNECTORS INSPECTED. Over time, some types of appliance connectors can crack or break, resulting in a serious gas leak. If you have an older appliance, have a qualified professional inspect the connectors to be sure they are safe and meet current safety-code requirements.

DO NOT MOVE AN APPLIANCE YOURSELF to check the connector; this might damage the connector and create a leak.

If You Move or Get a New Appliance

TREAT CONNECTORS WITH CARE. When an appliance is moved, be careful not to damage the appliance connector (the flexible tubing that brings gas to the unit). Older connectors can crack if flexed or twisted, which can lead to a gas leak.

IS THE APPLIANCE DESIGNED TO USE PROPANE? Be sure that any new or used appliance being installed is designed for use with propane. Natural gas appliances **SHOULD NOT** be used with propane unless a qualified service technician has made required adjustments to the appliance.



HAVE THE APPLIANCE CHECKED OUT BEFORE YOU USE IT.

Be sure that the appliance is installed properly and that all controls and valves operate correctly. Contact a qualified professional for assistance.



GAS CAN LEAK THROUGH AN OPEN GAS LINE. If you disconnect an appliance from a gas line or are otherwise aware of an open gas line, be sure to contact your propane retailer or a qualified professional to close, cap, or plug the open gas line.

Tampering with Appliances or Propane Equipment



DO NOT TRY TO INSTALL, MODIFY, OR REPAIR valves, regulators, connectors, controls, or other appliance and cylinder/tank parts. Doing so creates the risk of a gas leak that can result in property damage, serious injury, or death.



CALL AN EXPERT. If you are unable to operate any part of your propane system, or if you think an appliance or other device is not operating properly, call your propane retailer or a qualified professional. They can inspect, adjust, repair, or replace any part of your propane system.

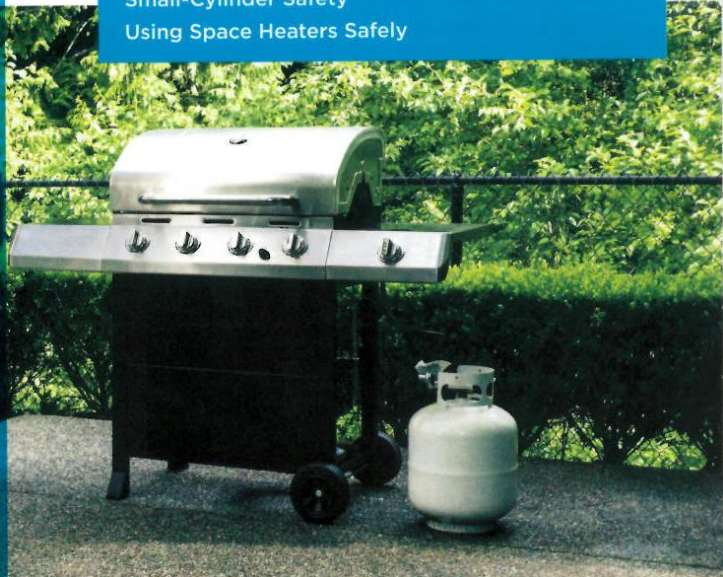
YOUR PROPANE SYSTEM IS DESIGNED FOR SAFETY.

Propane cylinders, tanks, and appliances incorporate special components (such as valves, connectors, controls, burners, and pilot lights) to keep them safe for use. Damaging these components can cause gas leaks.


OTHER IMPORTANT SAFETY SITUATIONS


3


Flammable Vapor Ignition
Closing Up a House
Weather-Related Emergencies
Small-Cylinder Safety
Using Space Heaters Safely




Flammable Vapor Ignition

 **FLAMMABLE VAPORS ARE A SAFETY HAZARD!** The pilot light on your propane appliance can ignite vapors from gasoline, paint thinners, and other flammable liquids. Be sure to store and use flammable liquids outdoors or in an area of the building containing no propane appliances.

 **FLAMMABLE VAPORS ARE OFTEN HEAVIER THAN AIR** and may travel along the ground and collect in low or confined areas (such as a basement or pit). Sometimes the vapors may follow air currents in the building to higher levels. Any source of ignition in these areas (such as a pilot light, spark, heater element, or electric motor) could cause an explosion or a fire.


 **TO HELP REDUCE THE RISK OF FLAMMABLE VAPOR IGNITION:**

- Store flammable liquids in well-sealed containers outside.
- Do not use gasoline, cleaning fluids, oil-soaked rags, or other flammable liquids inside a building where propane appliances are located.

 **PROPANE VAPORS CAN BE DANGEROUS.** Propane vapor is also combustible and can ignite explosively. Keep propane storage containers closed. Never store or place a propane cylinder indoors, in an enclosed area, or near a heat or ignition source.


Closing Up a House

KEEP YOUR HOME SAFE WHEN YOU ARE AWAY. If you are leaving your home for an extended period, consider closing all propane supply valves. This includes the main gas supply valve on the propane tank as well as gas supply valves located near individual appliances.

 **WHEN YOU RETURN** to your home after an extended absence, contact your propane retailer or a qualified professional to conduct a leak test before the propane is turned on and to re-light the pilot lights.

SECTION 3 // OTHER IMPORTANT SAFETY SITUATIONS

Weather-Related Emergencies


 **PROTECT YOUR PROPANE SYSTEM IF THE WEATHER TURNS BAD.** Before, during, or after severe weather, you may need to take specific action to ensure the continued safe operation of your propane system.

WATER CAN DAMAGE YOUR PROPANE SYSTEM. If flooding is predicted for your area, turn off the gas valve at the cylinder or tank **BEFORE** the water rises. Contact a qualified professional to check the propane system and all appliances and to turn the gas back on.

AFTER A FLOOD, contact a qualified professional to check your propane system and appliances. A qualified professional will likely have to do some or all of the following:

- Replace the regulator and/or pressure-relief valves if there are signs of water, dirt, debris, or corrosion.
- Replace the automatic controls and appliance regulators on any gas appliances that have been under water.
- Inspect and (if necessary) replace manual shut-off valves in gas piping, and test the propane system.
- Clean appliance burners and replace pilot orifices.

CLEAR THE SNOW. You should clear heavy snow and ice from regulators, regulator vents, piping, tubing, and valves. Failure to do so can cause damage and can result in a gas leak. Appliance vents, chimneys, and flues also must be kept clear of snow and ice so appliances can vent properly. This is especially critical on the roofs of mobile homes. Clear snow carefully. Use a broom rather than a shovel to avoid damaging any components. Also, clear the walkway and tank area so that propane-company personnel have ready access to your tank.





 **WHAT IF SOMETHING DOES NOT LOOK RIGHT AFTER A STORM?** If your tank has shifted position; gas lines are bent, broken, or damaged; or you see something else unusual about your system or appliance, turn off the main gas supply valve on your propane tank, if it is safe to do so. Then contact your propane retailer or a qualified professional.

Small-Cylinder Safety

You may occasionally use small propane cylinders to operate barbecue grills and other outdoor appliances.

If so, be sure to follow these basic safety tips:

IF YOU SMELL GAS OR SUSPECT A GAS LEAK

-  Immediately put out all smoking materials and other open flames.
-  Turn off the cylinder valve if it is safe to do so. To close the valve, turn it to the right (clockwise).
-  Immediately leave the area and call 911 or your local fire department.
-  Before you restart the appliance, have a qualified professional inspect your cylinder and appliance.

STORAGE OF SMALL CYLINDERS



NEVER store or place a propane cylinder indoors or in an enclosed area such as a basement, garage, shed, or tent.

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NEVER store or place a propane cylinder in an area of excessive heat (120 degrees or higher) or near a stove, fireplace, or other heat source. The heat builds up pressure inside the cylinder, which may cause the pressure-relief valve to release propane. Flash fires or explosions can result from exposing cylinders to heat.

NEVER store or place a spare cylinder under or near a barbecue grill.



DO NOT smoke or have any ignition sources such as flames or spark-producing electrical tools in the area while handling or transporting cylinders.



SECTION 3 // OTHER IMPORTANT SAFETY SITUATIONS

TRANSPORTATION OF SMALL CYLINDERS



ALWAYS transport and store a cylinder in a secure and upright position so it will not fall, shift, or roll.

ALWAYS close the cylinder valve and, if required, seal with a plug, even if the cylinder is empty. Ask your propane retailer if a plug is required.

NEVER keep a filled cylinder inside a hot vehicle or transport it inside a closed trunk.

ALWAYS place the cylinder in a well-ventilated area of the vehicle.

ALWAYS proceed directly to your destination and immediately remove the cylinder from your vehicle.

The law places limits on the number of cylinders and the amount of propane that can be transported in closed-bodied vehicles such as passenger cars and vans. Ask your propane retailer for more information on state and local codes that apply to you.

TAMPERING WITH/REPAIR OF CYLINDERS OR OUTDOOR APPLIANCES



DO NOT TRY TO INSTALL, MODIFY, OR REPAIR valves, regulators, connectors, controls, or other appliance and cylinder/tank parts. Doing so creates the risk of a gas leak that can result in property damage, serious injury, or death.



CALL AN EXPERT. Call your propane retailer or qualified professional if you are unable to operate your outdoor appliances.



NEVER STORE PROPANE CYLINDERS INDOORS OR IN AN ENCLOSED AREA. Any gas leaking from a cylinder can build up and be ignited by a flame or spark, causing an explosion or a fire.

OVERFILL PREVENTION DEVICE (OPD)



MAKE SURE YOUR CYLINDER IS EQUIPPED WITH AN OVERFILL PREVENTION DEVICE (OPD).

An OPD is a safety feature that helps prevent small propane cylinders from being overfilled. An overfilled cylinder does not have enough space left if the liquid expands when exposed to warmer temperatures. This can cause an increase in cylinder pressure and create potentially hazardous conditions.

Most cylinders with OPDs have special triangular handwheels with the letters "OPD" on them. In many states, cylinders without OPDs cannot be refilled. If you are uncertain as to whether your cylinder has an OPD valve on it, ask your propane retailer.

OLD OR DAMAGED CYLINDERS

NEVER use a damaged cylinder or a cylinder that has been in a fire. All cylinders must be inspected before they are refilled. The law requires periodic inspection of cylinders, and it is against the law to refill out-of-date cylinders. The last inspection date is stamped on the cylinder.

DISPOSAL OF CYLINDERS



NEVER dispose of your propane cylinder by throwing it in the trash. Check to see if there are municipal programs for collection in your area, or contact your propane retailer for guidance on disposal of the cylinder.

Using Space Heaters Safely

USE THE RIGHT KIND OF HEATER. Some propane space heaters are designed only for use outdoors. Others are designed only for use indoors. Check your owner's manual or contact a qualified professional to be sure you are using the right kind of heater.

FOLLOW MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS. The appliance manufacturer's manual that came with your space heater tells how to set it up and operate it safely.



DO NOT USE AN OUTDOOR HEATER INDOORS.

High levels of carbon monoxide can be generated from heaters that are not designed for indoor use. High levels of carbon monoxide can make you dizzy, give you headaches, or cause flu-like symptoms. In extreme cases, carbon monoxide can result in brain damage or death.

SECTION 4 // SAFETY CHECKLIST AND CONTACTS

SAFETY CHECKLIST AND CONTACTS

4

Safety Checklist
Important Contacts



Safety Checklist

Things to Do Right Now:

- **PROPANE SMELL.** Teach everyone in your home or building what propane smells like by using the blue circle on the page opposite of the inside front cover. The odor is similar to propane odor. You can also ask your propane retailer for a sniff of the gas at the tank. Always take action if you smell gas or suspect a gas leak.
- **EMERGENCY PROCEDURES.** Learn what to do if you smell gas or suspect a gas leak, and about the dangers that carbon monoxide can pose. Review the section at the front of this manual titled, "Read This First."
- **FLAMMABLE MATERIALS.** Move any flammable and combustible materials (such as paper, clothing, wood, gasoline, and solvents) away from any propane appliances.
- **LEARN ABOUT YOUR PROPANE SYSTEM.** Request a visit from your propane retailer to learn what's "under the dome" on the top of your propane tank. Identify the shut-off valves, regulators, and safety relief valve, and learn how they operate.

■ **TALK WITH YOUR CHILDREN.** Be sure they understand the following important safety tips:

- Take the "scratch and sniff" test to learn what propane smells like.
- If you smell gas, tell an adult right away and then go outside.
- Do not turn or play with the knobs or other controls on a stove, an oven, a water heater, or other appliance.
- Do not play around or climb on a propane tank, a gas line, an appliance, or other parts of the propane system.

Things to Do at the Start of the Heating Season:

- **ANNUAL SAFETY CHECK.** Once a year (at the start of the heating season), ask your propane retailer to do a complete safety check of your propane system and appliances.

Important Contacts

Things to Do as Needed:

- **MONITOR YOUR FUEL GAUGE.** Check the fuel gauge on your propane tank periodically. Contact your propane retailer if the propane level is running low.
- **UNCONNECTED GAS LINES.** Be sure that any unconnected gas lines are closed, plugged, or capped. Contact your propane retailer or a qualified professional to do this job safely.
- **CLOSING UP A HOUSE.** When closing up a house for an extended absence, consider shutting off the propane system at the tank as well as at each appliance. When you return, ask your propane retailer to re-light your pilot lights and restore gas service.
- **ICE AND SNOW.** Carefully clear snow and ice from regulators, regulator vents, piping, tubing, and valves, as well as from your tank and the area around it.
- **AFTER A STORM.** After high winds, heavy rain, or any other weather emergency, check your propane tank and system. If anything appears to have been damaged, contact your propane retailer right away.

Emergency Contacts



Police Department:

Fire Department:

Important Contacts

Propane Retailer:

Qualified Professional: