



SAFETY TIPS

for Portable Heaters



Portable electric space heaters are commonly used to provide supplemental heat during the colder months. Unfortunately, space heaters can increase the risks of fire and electric shock if not used properly. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) estimates that there were 21,800 home fires involving stationary or portable space heaters in 2007. These fires resulted in 490 civilian deaths, 1,180 injuries and \$330 million in direct property damage.

Space heater safety is not just a residential concern. Portable electric space heaters are also used in workplaces across the country and can pose a major workplace safety hazard. Fires can be caused by space heaters without adequate safety features, space heaters placed near combustibles, or space heaters that are improperly plugged in. If an employer does not have a written policy specifically forbidding the use of space heaters on company property, it is critical that they establish and publish guidelines for their safe use. Educating employees about safe space heater practices can reduce the risks to employees and facilities.

9 Things You Should Do

9 Things You Shouldn't Do



Follow 3ft. Rule
Keep the heater at least 3ft. away from combustible materials, including beds, sofas, curtains, papers, clothes, etc.



Inspect Cords
Make sure the heaters power cord is not damaged or frayed in any way.



Plug is Snug
Make sure the heater is securely plugged into the power outlet. Ensure it does not come loose or fall out.



Keep it Stable
Ensure your heater is on a stable and level surface with minimal risk of it getting knocked over.




Safety Certified
Make sure your space heater has been certified as safe to use. You should see a safety logo on the back somewhere.



Smoke Detectors
Make sure your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are working properly.



Turn it off
Ensure your unit is turned off when you go to sleep, in a different room, or unable to keep an eye on it.



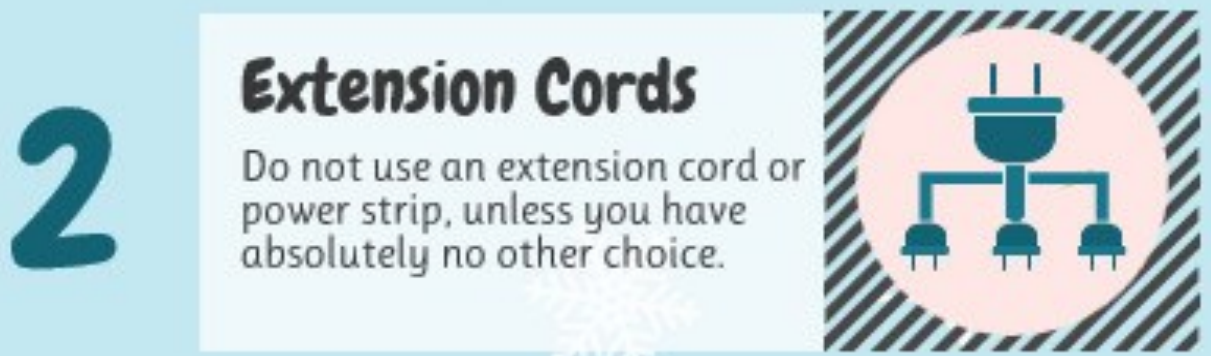
Train & Teach
It is wise to teach everyone in your household how to properly operate your heater.



Use the Right Fuel
If your space heater requires fuel, make sure you refill it with the right kind.... Or you will most likely cause a fire.



1 Crowd Your Unit
Do not put anything flammable around the front, sides or rear of the heater.



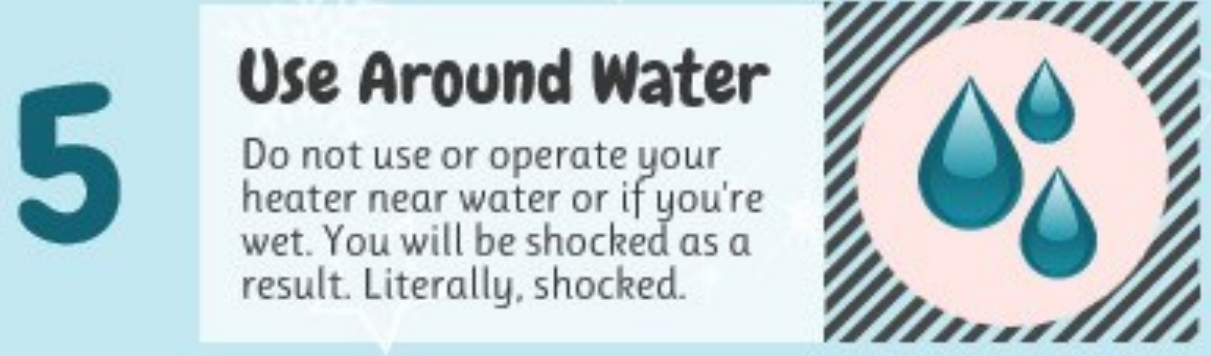
2 Extension Cords
Do not use an extension cord or power strip, unless you have absolutely no other choice.



3 Hot to the Touch
Do not use heater if the power cord or wall heater feels hot on the touch. Call electrician to inspect.



4 Place on Tables
Do not use your heater on top of a table, chair or any surface that is not stable.



5 Use Around Water
Do not use or operate your heater near water or if you're wet. You will be shocked as a result. Literally, shocked.



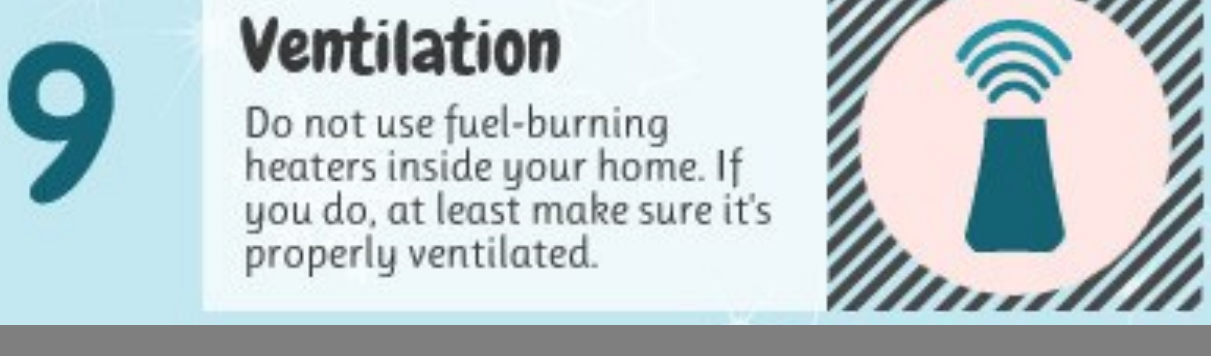
6 Cords Under Rugs
Do not run the power cord from your heater underneath carpets, rugs or furniture.



7 Know Your Size
Do not use a space heater that is designed for an area larger than you need.



8 Keep an Eye Out
Do not allow children to use or operate your heater without proper training and supervision.



9 Ventilation
Do not use fuel-burning heaters inside your home. If you do, at least make sure it's properly ventilated.

Contact your SSI Sales Representative for all your Safety needs!

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