

Electric Portable Space Heater Safety

When the weather turns cold, it can bring a chill into our homes. Portable space heaters have become a popular way to supplement central heating or heat one room. If you plan to use portable electric space heaters, make sure to follow these tips and recommendations:

HEATER CHECKLIST

- Purchase a heater with the seal of a qualified testing laboratory.
- Keep the heater at least 3 feet (1 metre) away from anything that can burn, including people.
- Choose a heater with a thermostat and overheat protection.
- Place the heater on a solid, flat surface.
- Make sure your heater has an auto shut-off to turn the heater off if it tips over.
- Keep space heaters out of the way of foot traffic. Never block an exit.
- Keep children away from the space heater.
- Plug the heater directly into the wall outlet. Never use an extension cord.
- Space heaters should be turned off and unplugged when you leave the room or go to bed.

Types of electric space heaters

Oil or water-filled radiator
Heated oil or water travels through the heater.

Fan-forced heater
A fan blows warm air over metal coils.

Ceramic heater
Air is warmed over a ceramic heating element.

Infrared heaters
Heat is created by infrared bulbs.

Fact

Two in five deaths in space heater fires involve portable electric space heaters.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
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I NEED SOME SPACE!
KEEP SPACE HEATERS AT LEAST THREE FEET AWAY FROM ANYTHING THAT CAN BURN
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Turning in for the night? Turn off your space heater.
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