

Space Heater Safety Topics

January Safety Topic

Heating equipment is the 2nd leading cause of home and work fires in the United States. More than 65,000 home and work fires are attributed to heating equipment each year.






Portable electric heaters can be a convenient source of supplemental heat for the winter. Unfortunately, they can pose significant fire and electric shock hazards if not used properly.

Safety should always be a top consideration when using space heaters. Below are some tips to remember when using a space heater:

- Before using make sure to carefully read the manufactures instructions and warning labels.
- Inspect heater for cracked or broken plugs. If frayed, worn out, or damaged do not use heater.
- Do not plug heater into extension cord. Can overheat and result in a fire.
- Proper placement of heater. At least 3 feet away from clothing, paper, rugs, etc.
- Locate heater out of high traffic areas, including heater cord.
- Do not place heater on tables, cabinets, or furniture.
- NEVER leave space heater unattended. Turn it off when leaving the building for lunch or in a meeting in board rooms.
- **When you leave for the day always UNPLUG the heater.**

SPACE HEATER SAFETY

FOLLOW THESE TIPS WHEN USING A SPACE HEATER IN THE WORKPLACE

 PROPER PLUGGING	 LOCATION	 READ MANUAL	 CLEAR AREA	 UNPLUG
ALWAYS PLUG THE SPACE HEATER DIRECTLY INTO AN OUTLET. NEVER USE AN EXTENSION CORD.	PLACE THE SPACE HEATER ON A LEVEL SURFACE WITH A MINIMUM OF 3 FEET OF CLEARANCE SURROUNDING IT.	IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO READ THE USER'S MANUAL. FOLLOW MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS AND WARNING LABELS.	DO NOT LET ANYTHING ON TOP OR UNDER THE SPACE HEATER. AREA AROUND THE HEATER MUST BE CLEAR.	DO NOT LEAVE SPACE HEATER UNATTENDED. ALWAYS TURN IT OFF WHEN YOU LEAVE YOUR DESK. WHEN YOU LEAVE THE BUILDING UNPLUG HEATER FROM OUTLET.