



SAFETY FACT SHEET

#001-18



PORTABLE ELECTRIC SPACE HEATER USE

1. Many of us are looking into a variety of ways to keep warm during this time of year, and especially during this time when we are experiencing colder than normal temperatures over a long period of time.
2. Many will decide to use a portable electric space heater in their work areas. Here are some requirements for their use to make sure you stay not only warm but safe:
 - a. Place the heater on a level, hard, non-flammable surface.
 - b. Keep the heater away from water or water sources, curtains, or other flammables. Recommended free space around the heater is 3 feet.
 - c. Plug the heater directly into a wall outlet, do not use extension cords or surge protectors.
 - d. Never leave the heater unattended and always unplug the heater when you leave or are finished using it.
 - e. Inspect the heater each day to be sure everything is in good working order. Feel the plug at the wall outlet periodically to see if it feels hot. If so stop using the heater.
 - f. Read the instructions. Try to use only UL or CSA approved heaters and heaters that have "Tip-Over Shut Off" feature.
3. Space heaters are the cause of 33% of all winter house fires and 70% of all winter fire injuries. The two main reasons for the fires are unattended heaters and combustibles located too close to the heater.
4. DON'T BECOME ONE OF THESE STATISTICS!