

TEMPORARY OUTDOOR HEATING GUIDELINES

PORTABLE OUTDOOR GAS-FIRED HEATERS (PATIO HEATERS)

Section 603.4.2 of the Fire Code specifically regulates portable outdoor gas-fired heating appliances, commonly known as patio heaters.

Appliance Location Restrictions

- **Clearance to Combustible Materials**

Portable outdoor gas-fired heating appliances shall not be located beneath, or closer than 5 feet to combustible decorations and combustible overhangs, awnings, sunshades, or similar combustible attachments to buildings.

- **Clearance to Buildings**

Portable outdoor gas-fired heating appliances shall be located at least 5 feet from buildings.

- **Prohibited Storage or Use**

The storage or use of portable outdoor gas-fired heating appliances is prohibited in any of the following locations:

- o Inside of any occupancy when connected to the fuel gas container
- o Inside of tents, canopies and membrane structures
- o On exterior balconies

- **Proximity to Exits**

Portable outdoor gas-fired heating appliances shall not be located within 5 feet of exits or exit discharges.

Installation and Operational Requirements

In accordance with Section 603.4.2.2 of the Fire Prevention Code, portable outdoor gas-fired heating appliances shall be installed and operated in accordance with the following regulations:

- **Listing & Approval**

Only listed and approved portable outdoor gas-fired heating appliances utilizing a fuel gas container that is integral to the appliance shall be used.

- **Installation & Maintenance**

Portable outdoor gas-fired heating appliances shall be installed and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

- **Tip-over Switch Required**

Portable outdoor gas-fired heating appliances shall be equipped with a tilt or tip-over switch that automatically shuts off the flow of gas if the appliance is tilted more than 15 degrees from the vertical.

- **Guard Against Contact Required**

The heating element or combustion chamber of portable outdoor gas-fired heating appliances shall be permanently guarded to prevent accidental contact by persons or material.

Fuel Gas Containers

In accordance with Section 603.4.2.3 of the Fire Prevention Code, fuel gas containers for portable outdoor gas-fired heating appliances shall comply with the following:

- **Approved Containers**

Only approved DOTn or ASME gas containers shall be used.

- **Container Replacement Restriction**

Replacement of fuel gas containers in portable outdoor gas-fired heating appliances shall not be conducted while the public is present.

- **Container Capacity Limitation**

The maximum individual capacity of gas containers used in connection with portable outdoor gas-fired heating appliances shall not exceed 20 pounds.

Fuel Gas Containers Cont.



- **Prohibited Storage of Containers**

Gas containers shall not be stored inside of buildings, or in any location near exit access doors, exits, stairways, or areas normally used, or intended to be used, as a means of egress. Containers not connected for use shall not be stored on roofs.

- **Outside Storage of Containers**

Gas containers approved for outside storage shall be located in a manner that minimizes exposure to excessive temperature rise, physical damage, and/or tampering, which includes a lockable, ventilated metal cabinet or other approved enclosure.

PORTABLE ELECTRIC SPACE HEATERS



General Regulations

In accordance with Section 604.10 of the Fire Code, portable electric space heaters shall be permitted to be used in accordance with the following regulations:

- Shall be listed and labeled in accordance with UL 1278. (604.10.1)
- Shall be installed and maintained in accordance with the listing and instructions. (604.7)
- Shall be operated only in locations for which they are listed. (604.10.4)
- Shall be plugged directly into an approved receptacle. (604.10.2)
- Shall not be plugged into extension cords. (604.10.3)
- Shall not be operated within 3 feet of any combustible materials. (305.1 & 604.10.4)
- Heating elements shall be permanently guarded so as to prevent accidental contact by persons or material. (603.5.1)

ADDITIONAL PROHIBITIONS & REQUIREMENTS



Approval, Listing, and Labeling

Portable heating equipment must be listed and/or labeled for its intended use. In some cases, portable heating equipment may be required to be approved.