

Portable Fireplaces

Portable fuel-burning fireplaces have become popular in recent years as a way to create ambiance and warmth around your home. Whether used indoor or outdoor, portable fireplaces can be dangerous. If not used properly, the fuel and open flame pose a serious fire hazard. Heating equipment is one of the leading causes of home fires in the winter months. [Half of all home heating fires](#) occur in December, January and February.

Before you cozy up to one of these appliances here are a few [tips for staying safe](#) while using fuel-fired portable fireplaces:

- Check with your local fire marshal before using fuel-fired portable heaters. Many cities and towns do not permit them;
- Get a carbon monoxide alarm if using a portable heater with fuel. Fuel-fired portable heaters produce carbon monoxide;
- Take the fuel-fired portable heater outside for refueling;
- Do not use fuel-fired portable heaters in a bedroom or bathroom that is not well vented; and
- Don't pour fuel in a device that is lit or not completely cool.

As with all heating equipment, space is important! Create a "safe zone" around the device by keeping children, pets and anything that can burn at least three feet away.