



# Important Propane Safety Information

What to Do If You Suspect a Leak

Propane Appliances

When to Use a Qualified Professional

Carbon Monoxide Safety



**Read and follow** the safety instructions in this pamphlet to reduce the risk of fire, explosion, and serious injury or death.

**Share** this information with everyone else in your home.

**Keep** this pamphlet or access it anytime at [propane.com/safety](http://propane.com/safety).

Este folleto contiene información importante acerca de la seguridad relacionada con el gas propano: pídale su versión en español a su vendedor de gas propano o llame a [propane.com/safety](http://propane.com/safety).



## Propane Appliances

**PILOT LIGHTS**  
Lighting or troubleshooting pilot lights improperly can cause fire and explosion.

**A QUALIFIED PROFESSIONAL CAN SAFELY LIGHT PILOT LIGHTS AND ADDRESS PROBLEMS.**

**If you choose to light your pilot lights:**

- Follow the appliance manufacturer's instructions.
- If you suspect a gas leak, do not attempt to light.
- If a pilot light is difficult to light or repeatedly goes out, **NEVER try to fix or troubleshoot the problem yourself.** Contact a qualified professional.

**BE SURE YOUR APPLIANCES CAN "BREATHE" PROPERLY**

- Appliances need air for proper combustion, and exhaust gases need to flow to the outdoors. Ventilation problems can result in high carbon monoxide levels in the home.
- Keep the area around your appliance clear.
- Check appliance vents for obstructions such as insect, bird, or small animal nests. In wintry weather, keep the area around vents clear of snow and ice.

**Never store anything that can burn (such as paper, clothing, gasoline, or solvents) near appliances.**

**KEEP FLAMMABLE GASES, VAPORS, AND LIQUIDS AWAY FROM PROPANE APPLIANCES**

Flammable gases and vapors from cleaning fluids, paint thinners, gasoline, and other flammable liquids can be ignited by propane appliances. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for safe use and storage.

**AVOID STRESSING APPLIANCE CONNECTORS**

Appliance connectors can crack or break when flexed or twisted, such as when an appliance is moved. Use care near connectors, such as when cleaning. If you damage a connector, turn off the gas and contact a qualified professional.

**GAS CAN LEAK THROUGH AN OPEN GAS LINE**

Plan ahead! If an appliance is going to be disconnected from a gas line, even if you will not be installing a new appliance, a qualified professional must cap or plug the open gas line.

## When to Use a Qualified Professional

**SAFETY CODES IN EVERY STATE REQUIRE A "QUALIFIED PERSON" FOR CERTAIN TASKS.**

A "qualified person" is experienced, familiar with required precautions, and complies with all requirements.

**Never try to install, modify, or repair your propane system or appliances.**

Improper installation or service of propane appliances or equipment can result in a gas leak, fire, explosion, and serious injury or death.



**USE A QUALIFIED PROFESSIONAL:**

- **For installations and service,** such as:
  - Any service or changes to the gas distribution system, including tanks, cylinders, pipes, and their components.
  - Installing, disconnecting, or relocating a propane appliance.
  - Replacing, installing, or inspecting propane appliance connectors.

**For scheduled maintenance** in accordance with your appliance manufacturer's instructions and schedule. For example, furnaces are often checked before each heating season begins.

**If there is a problem,** such as:

- Propane appliances or system not operating properly.
- Problems with your pilot lights.
- Soot buildup on equipment. (This may indicate gas is not burning completely.)
- Evidence of blocked vents (for example, from nests, snow, or ice) that you are unable to clear.

**If you run out of gas or if the gas is shut off.**

A qualified professional must check the propane system for leaks when turning the gas on. Never turn the gas on at the propane tank yourself. Be sure any pilot lights are properly relit as soon as the gas is turned back on.



For more information, please visit [propane.com](http://propane.com)

### If You Suspect A Gas Leak



**Get away immediately!**



**Avoid creating sparks.**



**Stay away and report the leak.**

See inside for details.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT PROPANE SAFETY

Scan QR code with cell phone camera. [propane.com/safety](http://propane.com/safety)



## Important Propane Safety Information

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## If You Suspect a Gas Leak

A propane gas leak is an emergency. It can result in fire and explosion. Be prepared to respond.

- 1 GET AWAY IMMEDIATELY**  
Get everyone out of the building or area where you suspect a gas leak.



- 2 AVOID CREATING SPARKS**

As you leave, avoid igniting the leaking gas. Some electrical devices and appliances can create sparks when manipulated.

- **DO NOT** turn any light switches **on or off**.
- Do not interact with any appliances, outlets, or landline phones.
- No smoking, vaping, or open flames.



- 3 STAY AWAY AND REPORT THE LEAK**

Once safely away, call your propane retailer, 911, or the fire department. Stay away from the suspected gas leak until your propane retailer, emergency responder, or qualified professional determines that it is safe to return.



**Turn off gas at the tank(s)**, unless you suspect there is a leak at the tank(s). To close the valve, turn it to the right (clockwise).



**Before using any propane appliances again**, have your entire propane system checked by your propane retailer or a qualified professional to make sure there are no leaks.



## Indicators of a Gas Leak

**PROPANE ODOR** A unique odor is added to propane to help alert people to a leak. Make sure everyone in your household knows what propane odor smells like. Scratch the blue circle, which smells similar to a propane odor. You can also ask your retailer for a sniff of the gas. *If you smell a bad odor and are not sure of the source, it may be a gas leak. Take action!*



**PROPANE GAS DETECTOR ALARM** Propane gas detectors can identify leaks even when propane is not smelled.

**SOUND OF HISsing GAS** A hissing sound may indicate that gas is escaping from a component of your propane system or appliance. **UNUSUAL USAGE** If you are using more gas than you expect, there may be a leak.

## You Might Not Smell a Gas Leak If:

The propane odor does not get to your nose.

- The propane odor may be present in an area where there are no people.
- Because propane is heavier than air, it may settle near the floor.
- Airflow may move or disperse the propane odor.

**OR**

Your ability to notice the odor is reduced. Reasons may include:

- A cold, allergies, sinus congestion, or other medical condition.
- Tobacco, alcohol, or drug use.
- Being older.
- Being asleep.
- "Odor fatigue." This could occur when the propane odor is present for a period of time and your nose "gets tired" and you no longer smell it.
- The presence of other strong odors, such as tobacco smoke, cooking odors, or musty or damp smells, masking propane odor.

**OR**

Propane has lost its odor.

The odor that is added to propane can sometimes be absorbed by substances such as soil, water, or rust, making it more difficult to smell ("odor loss").

## You Should Install Propane Gas Detectors

**Propane gas detectors can identify leaks you do not smell.** Use a flammable gas detector that senses propane and always follow the manufacturer's instructions.

**If the alarm sounds**, do not go toward the alarm. Treat it as an emergency and act immediately, even if you do not smell propane odor.

**NEVER ignore the smell of propane odor**, even if your propane gas detectors do not alarm.



**NOTE:** Propane gas detectors are different from smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors, although some combination detectors are available.

## Carbon Monoxide Can Be Deadly. Be Prepared To Respond.

### WHAT IS CARBON MONOXIDE (CO)?

Carbon monoxide is a poisonous gas that is colorless, odorless, and tasteless. High levels can cause brain damage or death. Young children, the elderly, people with heart disease, and those under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or medication are particularly susceptible to carbon monoxide poisoning.

### IF YOU SUSPECT CARBON MONOXIDE IS PRESENT

- 1 LEAVE IMMEDIATELY**

Everyone should get out of the building and away from where carbon monoxide is suspected.



- 2 CALL 911 OR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Once safely away, call 911 or the fire department to report the presence of carbon monoxide.



- 3 STAY AWAY**

Stay away from the suspected carbon monoxide until an emergency responder or other qualified professional tells you it is safe to return.



## To Reduce the Risk of Carbon Monoxide Poisoning:

- **Use carbon monoxide detectors.** Install a UL-listed carbon monoxide detector on each level of your home. Follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- **Have appliances checked by a qualified professional** in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and schedule.
- **Keep chimneys and appliance air intake and exhaust vents clear.** Regularly check to be sure that air can flow in for the gas to burn properly and exhaust gases can flow easily to the outdoors.
- **Position and use vent-free appliances correctly.** In accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- **Heat only with appliances intended for indoor heating.**
  - Never use a gas oven or range-top burners to provide heating.
  - Never use portable heaters indoors, unless they are designed and approved for indoor use.
  - Never use a barbecue grill (propane or charcoal) indoors for heating or cooking.
- **Watch for signs that appliances might be operating improperly.**

## Indicators That Unsafe Levels of Carbon Monoxide May Be Present

### CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTOR ALARM

Carbon monoxide detectors sound an alarm when they sense excessive levels of carbon monoxide in the air.

### EXPERIENCING PHYSICAL SYMPTOMS such as:

FATIGUE  
OR OTHER  
FLU-LIKE  
SYMPTOMS



- SIGNS OF IMPROPER APPLIANCE OPERATION INCLUDE:**
- Soot, especially on appliances and vents
  - Unfamiliar or burning odor
  - Increased moisture inside windows



### WHERE DO UNSAFE LEVELS OF CARBON MONOXIDE COME FROM?

Unsafe levels of carbon monoxide can be generated by appliances that are defective or improperly installed, operated, or maintained, or have air intakes blocked. Carbon monoxide can also enter a home if an appliance venting system or chimney becomes blocked (for example, by a bird's nest).