

CANDLE Safety Tips



Candle users should always use caution, especially in cold temperatures and during power failures. An estimated 20% of candle fires involving fatalities occur concurrently with a loss of electrical power. While flashlights and battery-powered lamps are safe sources of light during lengthy power outages, candles are also considered reliable alternatives—if used safely. Follow these helpful tips to keeping your home safe, and find even more tips at www.candles.org.



Place burning candles at least 3 inches apart from one another so they don't melt one another or burn improperly.



To extinguish candles safely, cup your hand behind the flame before blowing it out or snuff out the flame with a metal candle snuffer. Sparks or embers, if blown from the candle, could ignite combustibles nearby.



Consider using pillar or broader-based candles during a power outage, as they're less likely to be accidentally knocked over. When possible, enclose candles within glass globes to prevent burns or fires.



Never burn a candle on or near anything that can catch fire. Keep burning candles away from furniture, drapes, bedding, carpets, books, paper, flammable decorations, electronics, etc.



Never leave burning candles unattended. Extinguish them when leaving a room.



Keep candles well out of the reach of children and pets.



Place candles on a stable surface in a fire-resistant holder at least 12 inches away from anything flammable, including holiday decorations.



GLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS

- Avoid moving a burning candle at any time, especially during power outages. Candle containers may be too hot to handle and could brush against flammable items in the dark.
- For added safety when the lights go out, candle holders may be placed on stable, nonflammable surfaces such as a metal cookie sheet, frying pan or ceramic dinner plate.
- Extinguish candles before going to bed, and never use one as a nightlight.
- Don't use candles to search for something in a closet or small confined space where clothes, papers or other combustibles could accidentally ignite.
- Never light a candle if you smell the odor of gas. Always check for gas leaks, especially during a power outage.