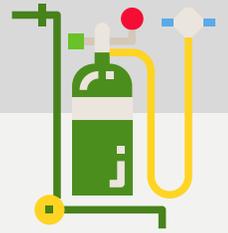




Medical Oxygen Safety



The use of portable medical oxygen in the home adds a higher percentage of oxygen to the air. A fire will burn hotter and faster in an oxygen-enriched area.

Homes where medical oxygen is used need specific fire safety rules to keep people safe from fire and burns.

Safety Tips

Most oxygen related fires are caused by;

- Smoking materials such as tobacco and non-tobacco smoking products including electronic cigarettes.
- Electrical heat sources and electrical devices.
- Candles, matches, woodstoves or any device with an open flame.
- Aerosol sprays containing combustible materials.

Oxygen saturates fabric covered furniture, clothing, hair and bedding, making it easier for a fire to start and spread.

- There is no safe way to smoke in the home when oxygen is in use. **Never smoke** in a home where oxygen is used.
- **Electrical heat sources and electrical devices** can be used in the home safely with medical oxygen equipment present. However, these appliances must be used with caution. Keep oxygen cylinders at least 1.5 metres from anything that can fuel or start a fire.
- **Candles, matches, wood stoves** and even **sparking toys**, can be ignition sources and should not be used in the home. This includes **aerosol sprays**. There is no safe distance that allows for these items to be used in the residence with oxygen equipment.



- **Electrical heat sources and electrical devices** can be used in the home safely with medical oxygen equipment present. However, these appliances must be used with caution. Keep oxygen cylinders at least 1.5 metres from anything that can fuel or start a fire.
- **Body oil, hand lotion and items containing oil and grease** can easily ignite. Keep oil and grease away where oxygen is in use.
- **Post "No Smoking" and "No Open Flames" signs** in and outside the home to remind people not to smoke.

Contact us for further information on what can be used safely in the home with medical oxygen.



For more information and free fire-safety resources visit
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