



## Propane safety

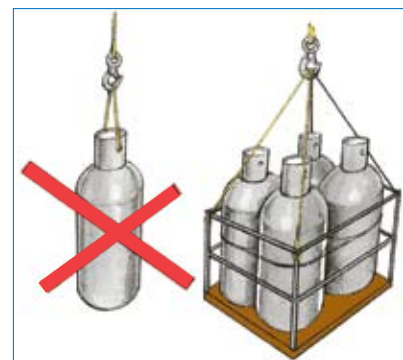
Propane leaks can cause serious fires and explosions. Propane gas, which is heavier than air, may leak and accumulate to create a dangerous environment, as it tends to creep along the ground and collect in low spots.

### Propane space heaters

- When using propane space heaters, do not close up a house tightly. Good ventilation is necessary to remove moisture and to prevent a build-up of propane gas.
- Do not use propane heaters where spray-painting of flammable paints is being done.
- Cylinders that are not being used should be stored outdoors.

### General propane safety

- Check propane cylinders for damage or corrosion prior to use.
- All propane and burner systems must be provided with a functional regulator.
- Propane cylinders must be secured in a level, upright position during storage, transportation, and use.
- Never apply a flame to cylinders to increase their pressure.
- Do not operate any equipment if the odour (rotten egg smell) of propane is present.
- Do not hoist propane cylinders by their valves or collars.
- Prior to use, propane hoses must be
  - Checked for damage and replaced if necessary
  - Protected from traffic damage
  - Checked for leaks at their connections (use a liquid soap test—bubbles will appear if a leak is present)
- When using tar kettles or tankers, propane cylinders must be kept at least 3 metres (10 feet) away.
- Propane cylinder valves must be opened fully when in use and closed tightly when not in use. Cylinder valves must not be used to adjust the torch flame. Pressure regulators are used for this purpose.
- Before shutting off the burner, close the cylinder valve and let the remaining gas burn out of the hose before closing the burner valve.
- During propane use, fire extinguishers must be available. It is required that one dry chemical extinguisher for every two torches be provided.



### In the event of a propane fire

- Shut off the propane gas valve if safe to do so.
- Evacuate the area.
- If the propane gas flow cannot be shut off safely
  - Allow the propane gas to burn
  - Evacuate the area, and call the fire department immediately