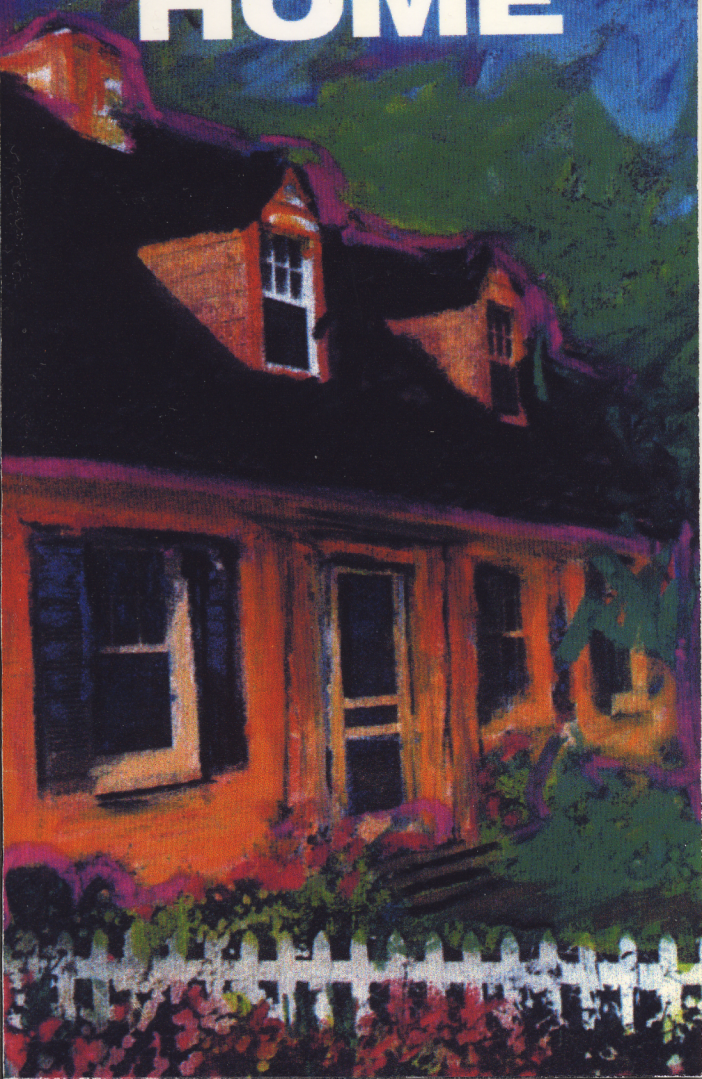


# **Burn Safety In Your HOME**



## **IN YOUR KITCHEN**

*(Refer to flame #1 and 2 on the home-safety map)*

The kitchen is one of the most dangerous places in your home. More people receive hospital emergency room treatment each year for injuries associated with burns occurring in the kitchen than in any other area of the home. Here are some kitchen cautions:

- If you have young children, try to limit cooking to the back burners of the stove. Pot and pan handles should be turned away from the cooking area, so that children can't pull pots off the edge of the stove.
- Avoid reaching across a lit gas or electric burner.
- When cooking, set a timer to remind yourself to turn off the oven or stove.
- Avoid drinking hot liquids with a child on your lap; one slip and serious scald can result.
- Store matches in a fire-proof container that you keep out of children's reach.
- Never leave a hot iron unattended. Unplug it when you've finished using it.
- Don't leave cords of electrical cooking appliances dangling or near water.
- If you smell gas or suspect a gas leak, open a window or door, leave the house, and then call the gas company or fire department for help immediately.
- Keep emergency telephone numbers by the phone.

## **IN YOUR BEDROOM**

*(Refer to flame #3 on the home-safety map)*

Fires are the most common hazard in the bedroom. Take the following precautions:

- Never smoke in bed.
- Keep space heaters and vaporizers a least 3 feet away from beds and curtains.
- Buy fire-retardant sleepwear for young children.
- When decorating, select fabrics, upholstery and carpets with a built-in fire retardant.
- Don't overload electrical outlets.
- Install a smoke detector outside your sleeping area. Be sure to check batteries frequently and change as often as necessary.

## IN YOUR BATHROOM

*(Refer to flame #4 on the home-safety map)*

Although most people spend only a few minutes in the bathroom each day, this room can be a trouble spot. Take these simple steps to prevent burns in the bathroom:

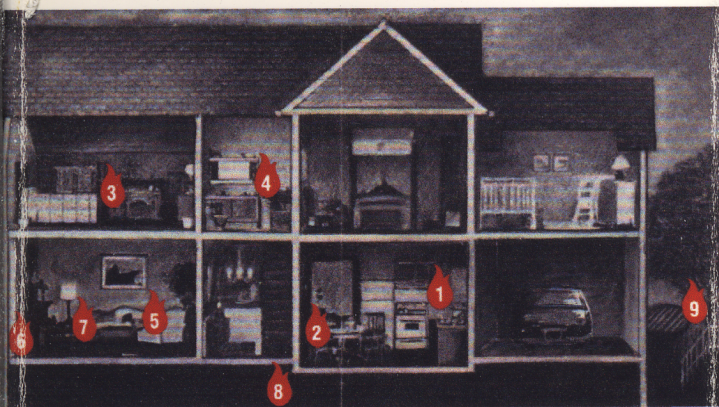
- Set the temperature of your hot water heater at 124 degrees (F). Scalds are the most common cause of burn injuries and a temperature of 140 degrees (F) can scald.
- When running a bath, run cold water first, then hot to the desired temperature. Test the temperature of the bath water before bathing babies and invalids.
- Always supervise toddlers in the bathtub.
- Be sure water faucets are completely turned off before putting a baby or invalid in the water; a scald can occur from contact with running water.
- Keep electrical appliances out of reach of any person taking a bath or shower. Don't leave cords dangling or near water.

## THE FAMILY OR LIVING ROOM

*(Refer to flame #s 5, 6, 7 on the home-safety map)*

These are the rooms where families spend the most time together. Here are some helpful hints for keeping family time safe:

- Place upholstered furniture away from the fireplace and other heat sources. Never put furniture directly up against the radiator.
- Allow for air space around the TV and stereo to prevent overheating.
- Use a metal screen for the fireplace and have the chimney checked and cleaned regularly. Keep toys and other combustibles away from the fireplace.
- Cover electrical outlets to prevent curious children from poking metal objects into them, resulting in serious electrical shocks.



## **THE FAMILY ROOM** (cont'd)

- Don't misuse or overload sockets in the wall or on extension cords. If you have a toddler, avoid using extensions cords altogether.
- Keep space heaters a least 3 feet away from furniture and curtains. Consider placing barriers around heaters.
- Use large ashtrays and put lighters and matches where children won't find them.
- After parties, check thoroughly for ashes or unextinguished cigarettes that may have fallen behind or between cushions and under furniture.
- Have a fire escape plan for all family members with a place to meet outside the home. Know two ways out of every room. Practice it regularly.

## **THE BASEMENT**

*(Refer to flame # 8 on the home-safety map)*

The basement is where most households store toxic substances and flammable materials. It's also an area that is usually not adequately lit. This combination requires extra caution for home-owners. Here's a checklist:

- Be sure staircases are well-lit and position light switches near doorways.
- Label fuses and circuit breakers to show which outlets and fixtures they protect.
- Keep area well ventilated; don't let rubbish accumulate.
- Store cleaning fluids, paint, solvents and chemicals away from any heat sources and in tightly closed containers.
- Have furnaces and other fuel-consuming devices checked regularly.

## **IN YOUR BACKYARD**

*(Refer to flame # 9 on the home-safety map)*

Everyone likes to enjoy the "Great Outdoors" but take care to prevent accidents from happening:

- Keep children away from barbecue fires.
- Use only proper lighter fluid to light a barbecue. Never use gasoline or other flammable liquids.
- Never squirt lighter fluid on a burning or smoldering fire.
- Keep your grill far away from combustible walls or fences.
- If using a gas grill, be sure gas valves are closed after using to prevent gas leaks.
- Don't throw hot embers on the ground.

# BURN SAFETY IN YOUR HOME

American homes are the scene of 23 million accidents - many of which result in injuries caused by burns. Fire strikes a U.S. home every 50 seconds and each household can expect to average 3 burn accidents per decade. At least 50% of them can be prevented. Most of these accidents occur as a result of human error and hazardous surroundings.

What's the key to burn prevention? Burnproofing your entire home and being prepared to administer prompt first aid for accidents. The following recommended precautions will help make your home burn safe. A home safety map has been provided to help you remember those areas that are particular fire hazards.

## IN CASE OF A BURN

Despite the best precautions, burn accidents can happen. Here's what to do should one occur:

- If clothing is in flames, immediately stop, drop to the ground and roll to extinguish the flames.
- Don't put butter, grease, dry dressings, ointments or salves on a burn; experts contend that they don't cool the burn or relieve the pain, and some may leave behind a greasy residue that must be physically removed if the victim later requires medical attention. Instead, Water-Jel BurnJel, a new Emergency first aid treatment for use on burns, is recommended. Water-Jel BurnJel is a specially formulated cooling gel that promptly cools, relieves pain and prevents further contamination of the burn wound. Store an ample supply of Water-Jel BurnJel in your kitchen cabinet, medicine chest and outdoors by the grill for ready first aid.
- Seek medical attention. Consult your physician if burn is severe, covers an area larger than your palm, or involves the face.

Take the necessary safety precautions to minimize the risk of injury in your home. Prevention and a sound knowledge of first aid can make all the difference to you and your loved ones and truly make your home a "sweet" one.



This brochure is a service to consumers from Water-Jel BurnJel emergency first aid product for use on burns. This publication is not intended to provide medical or burn treatment advice. Persons who need medical or professional burn service should contact a licensed professional.