

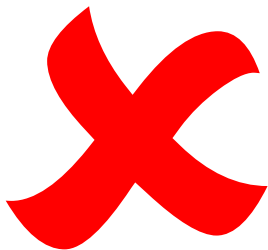
Prevention of Open wood fire/ Wood heater burns

Factsheet

- Open wood fires and wood heaters are a common and often cheap source of heating particularly during the winter months. However the burns sustained can be painful and may need surgical intervention to heal.
- Burns are caused from either direct contact with flame (flame burn), contact with heated glass or metal (contact burn) or from sitting too close to the fire (radiant burn).
- Some parents allow children to use the fire/heater to assist with standing or walking during hotter months. Unfortunately children may not know when the fire is lit and may sustain severe burns to their hands.



- ✓ Do use a fixed fire screen for all open wood fires and wood heaters
- ✓ Do clean and maintain chimneys and heater flues yearly
- ✓ Do supervise children at all times when around an open fire or wood heater
- ✓ Do keep clothing at least 2 metres from fire/heater



- ✗ Do not place clothing on or too close to the fire/heater
- ✗ Do not allow children to assist with lighting or maintaining a fire
- ✗ Do not use accelerants to light fires or place inside a wood heater to light
- ✗ Do not leave your heater door open or remove screen to open fire
- ✗ Do not sit too close to an open fire or wood heater
- ✗ Do not allow children to play around fire/heater even when it is not in use



First Aid for Burns

If you, or someone you know is burnt, take the following actions:

1. Remove clothing and jewellery
2. Apply cool running water to the burn for at least **20 minutes**
3. Cover burn with clean cloth and keep the patient warm
Do NOT use ice, butter, creams, etc
4. Seek medical attention for any burn bigger than 3cm, or with blisters, or if any other concerns are present