



AmTrust North America
An AmTrust Financial Company

Safety Zone

Burn Safety

Burns are painful and disfiguring. A major burn can take years of recovery. Flames and heat are not the only cause of burns. Chemicals can cause burns upon contact with the skin, as well. Chemical fumes can cause eye and respiratory system injuries. Electrical burns can also occur. The most serious electrical burn is from “arcing”. Arcing occurs when a discharge of electrical current jumps a gap in an exposed circuit.

In one very serious injury, an employee attempted to empty a pot of hot oil into a plastic container. The container melted, spilling the oil on his legs and into his shoes.

Hot burn hazards include hot surfaces, hot liquids, electricity, vapors and solids, fires and explosions, and chemicals. Cold burn hazards include compressed gases such as nitrogen and propane. Primary ways to prevent burns include following safety procedures, using heat-resistant gloves, and using rubber gloves for electrical work.

To prevent burns in the workplace, follow these suggestions.

- Practice good housekeeping. Oily rags and scattered waste are likely places for a fire to start.
- When moving containers of hot liquid, let the liquid cool first, if possible. If not possible, ask for help.
- Keep sparks and open flames away from combustible and flammable materials.
- Use protective equipment, including heat resistant gloves, face shields, aprons, and appropriate footwear.
- Keep pot handles turned inward on stoves.
- Open pot lids carefully, watching for hot vapors.
- Prevent scalds from hot beverages, hot food, steam, hot tap water, and warming trays.
- Do not create a splash when placing items in hot water or hot oil.
- Be aware of all potentially hot surfaces, especially cooking equipment.
- Maintain and use electrical equipment in a safe manner to prevent fires, arcing, and electrical burns.
- Store and handle chemicals according to directions. Read labels and the Safety Data Sheets for chemical content and information.
- Place oily or solvent-soaked rags in approved and covered metal containers.

Report malfunctioning equipment to a supervisor. Keep yourself and others safe. If in doubt, ask, check, or get assistance.

To prevent burns at home, take these precautions.

- Keep your house fire-safe. Make sure it is well maintained to reduce the chance of fires caused by electrical malfunctions and accumulations of combustible debris.
- Recognize chemical hazards. Follow the directions for handling and storage to prevent fires and explosions.
- Set the thermostat on the water heater to no more than 120 Fahrenheit (48 Celsius). This helps keep tap water at a safe temperature.
- Never leave pots unattended while cooking.

- Use insulated mitts and potholders for handling hot pots. Microwave cooking raises temperatures fast. Use caution when removing items from the microwave.

Are You In The Zone?

1. Burns are not always from _____ or _____
2. Name three burn hazards. _____, _____, _____
3. Name three general ways to prevent burns. _____, _____, _____
4. Name five practices to prevent burns in the workplace.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
 - e.

I have received information on Burn Prevention.

Employee Name: _____ Date: _____

For additional information and resources on this topic and other safety and risk management subjects be sure to visit the Loss Control section on our website:

<https://www.amtrustgroup.com/small-business-insurance/claims/prevention>

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