

Propane is a safe, efficient, and reliable fuel but it must be handled, transported, and stored properly or it can be dangerous.

- Propane is a hazardous flammable material that can have explosive force if ignited because the container is pressurized.
- If there is a leak, the propane can be ignited and cause a fire or burn the worker handling the container.



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Take care when choosing a storage location for propane cylinders. Containers should not be located in any area that has a risk of experiencing excessive heat, tampering by unauthorized persons, or physical damage.

- Propane cylinders should not be stored (even temporarily) near exits, stairways, or any other high-traffic areas.
- It's best to store propane cylinders at least 20 feet away from the building in an area that is protected from rain, like an open-air cage with floor and roof.
- Protect stored propane cylinders from falling by using a support system, like a chain. Consider securing each container individually for easy and safe removal.

Propane containers should not be stored near other flammable or combustible materials.

- Do not store or use propane cylinders in an area of excessive heat or near a heat or ignition source like open flames or pilot lights.
- Ambient temperatures in storage areas should not exceed 125° F.
- Ensure fire extinguishers are placed within easy access of propane storage.

Inspect propane cylinders regularly and look for signs of defects, deep rusting, and leakage.

- If propane cylinders are in poor condition they should be replaced, even if they haven't yet met their requalification date.
- Propane cylinders past their requalification date must be replaced or exchanged.
- Do not use a damaged, expired, or leaking propane cylinder.

Carry and transport propane cylinders in a vertical position, with the valves closed.

- Propane cylinders should not be rolled, dropped, dragged along the floor, or allowed to bang against other objects.
- Never ask a passenger to hold onto a propane container. Always transport propane cylinders in the trunk or cargo area of the vehicle.

Always follow the manufacturer's instructions for any propane-powered tools and equipment including proper use, inspection, storage, and the cylinder-changing procedure.

- Never leave propane-fueled tools or equipment (including forklifts) unattended in any area of possible excessive heat or near ignition sources.
- Carefully follow the instructions in the owner's manual regarding locations of safe operation. Exhaust from propane-fueled equipment contains poisonous carbon monoxide and should only be used in well-ventilated or outdoor areas only.

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