

# Home Sweet Comfortable Home

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## Safety 101 Prevention Tips for Portable Heaters

Portable heaters are a terrific way for households to save money on heating bills, especially during the in-between seasons like October/November and March/April when you don't want to heat an entire house. Heating the room you're in is a sensible and cost-effective way to save on your heating bills. Why heat areas of your home no one uses?

And, did you know that portable heaters can be as safe to use as your iron or hair dryer if used properly? And, just like your common kitchen appliances, portable heaters can be safe to use everyday. In fact, your coffee maker, electric griddle/skillet, and toaster oven all use the same amount of electricity and get just as hot as a portable heater. It's knowing how to use them safely that makes the difference.

When using a portable heater, there are some common sense safety tips consumers need to keep in mind. In addition to reading the heater's owner's manual, consumers need to be aware of recommended safety tips to protect themselves and their families.

Manufacturers of Honeywell portable heaters, manufacturer of portable heaters, in conjunction with the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM), have developed 11 simple tips for safely using a portable heater this season.

1. Read the manufacturer's instructions and warning labels before using any portable electric heater (or any household appliance).
2. Keep flammable materials away from the heater.
3. Do not use heater outside or in a bathroom, unless it is specifically designed for these areas. This can be very dangerous as parts of the heater can be damaged by moisture. Fire or electric shock hazard may result.
4. Periodically check to make sure outlets/plugs are secure. Plugs can become very hot if they do not fit snugly into the outlet. If this occurs, the outlet may need to be replaced. Call a qualified repairman to replace a suspect outlet.
5. Be sure to unplug the heater carefully. Pull the plug straight out of the outlet; do not pull the plug at an angle or by the heater's cord. Also, be sure to inspect the cord periodically. DO NOT use a heater with a damaged cord; it can be dangerous.
6. Monitor the number of appliances using the same outlet. Too many may cause you to overload a circuit.
7. Keep heaters at least three feet away from objects such as curtains, bedding and furniture. DO NOT block heater air intake or exhaust.
8. Place heaters on a level, flat surface. DO NOT place heaters on furniture, since it may fall and cause dislodging or breaking parts in the heater. This could result in a fire or shock hazard.
9. Children should be kept away from heaters. Keep heaters out reach from little hands and do not place a heater in a child's room without adult supervision.
10. When deciding where to place a heater, be sure to string cords on top of rugs or floors. Placing furniture or other objects on top of cords could cause damage.
11. Never use an extension cord unless absolutely necessary. Using an improper extension cord with high wattage appliances may cause overheating of the extension cord. If it is necessary to use an extension cord, it must be marked "12-gauge" or "14-gauge."

For more information on Kaz's line of Honeywell portable heaters, visit [www.honeywellheatsavings.com](http://www.honeywellheatsavings.com) or [www.kaz.com](http://www.kaz.com). Kaz is a global manufacturer and marketer of portable heaters under the Honeywell brand. The Honeywell trademark is used by Kaz, Inc. under license from Honeywell Intellectual Properties Inc.