

# Portable Fireplace Safety



There is nothing like sitting by an open fire on a cold night. Indoor and outdoor portable ethanol burning fireplaces have become more popular in recent years. While these products provide ambiance and a little warmth, keep in mind the fuel, device and open flame can be dangerous.

## Fireplace Safety

- » A portable ethanol burning fireplace, and the fuel, should only be used by adults.
- » Clean up any fuel spillage and be sure all liquid has evaporated before lighting the fireplace.
- » Light the fireplace using a utility lighter or long match.
- » An adult should always be present when a portable fireplace is burning.
- » Place the fireplace on a sturdy surface away from table edges.
- » It's a good idea to crack a window open for a fresh supply of air.
- » Never try to move a lit fireplace or one that is still hot.
- » Don't pour ethanol fuel in a device that is lit or not completely cool. It may result in a fire or injury.
- » Allow the device to cool down for at least 15 minutes before refueling.
- » Extinguish the flame when you leave the room, home or go to sleep.

## General Fire Safety

- Keep anything that can burn, children and pets at least 3 feet from the fireplace.
- Store lighters and matches out of the reach of children, in a locked cabinet.

## Ethanol Fuel Smarts

Store ethanol fuel in a closed container, away from the fireplace and out of the reach of children.

It may not be easy to see the ethanol fuel flame. Always close the lid or use a snuffer to be sure the flame is extinguished before refueling into a cooled fireplace.

Use only fuel made specifically for the fireplace.



## FACT

**Ethanol** is a plant-based product that does not release new carbon monoxide into the air.

**Mountain View Fire Rescue**

[www.mvfpd.org](http://www.mvfpd.org)



**Your Source for SAFETY Information**

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169