

Home Storage of Flammable LP-Gases

Propane and Butane

- For portable DOT tank storage, you are allowed up to **25 gallons** total capacity. You could have up to **five** 5-gallon (20 lb.) portable appliance cylinders (the size usually found on barbecue grills-DOT 4BA240); or **one** 23 gallon (100 lb.) cylinder (DOT 4bw240), in storage in an unattached garage or shed. But, if you want to store propane and flammable/combustible liquids together, they should be separated by at least 10 feet.
- You are only allowed to store up to two (2) of the small portable 1-pound disposable propane cylinders inside your home or attached garage. All other propane cylinder storage must be outside your home in an unattached garage or shed.
- Propane cylinders attached to heating and/or cooking appliances, as well as those mounted on trailers, motor homes, and campers, do not count towards your total storage capacity.
- Unattached or empty cylinders are counted as being full for purposes of calculating your total storage.
- LP-gas containers shall not be stored in a basement, pit or similar location where heavier-than-air gas might collect.
- Do not use portable gas heaters or cooking appliances inside of a confined space or room without proper ventilation.



January 2012 Fuel Storage Concerns

Over the past 10 years, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), State Environmental agencies, and local fire departments have required motor fuel dispensers (gas stations, etc.) throughout the nation, to spend Millions of dollars to control leakage of motor fuels into the environment from their underground and above ground fuel storage tanks. Naturally, we are now concerned about having hundreds of homeowners through the county with relatively uncontrolled fuel storage capacities on their personal property.

Therefore, we strongly recommend that you reduce your home fuel storage capacities to no more than 5 gallons of flammable liquids (gasoline or Coleman White gas), 25 gallons of combustible liquids (diesel, kerosene & lamp oil), 25 gallons of LPG (propane) in portable DOT cylinders. Heating fuels do not have an indefinite shelf-life; and in fact, many heating/cooking appliance manufacturers recommend that you consume all said fuels within 6 months of purchase.

Your voluntary cooperation in complying with these important Life Safety guidelines is greatly appreciated by the Public Safety community (Health, Fire & Police) at large. These guidelines are truly intended to save your life. And preserve your property. Please contact your local Fire Marshal's office for further clarification on these or any other issues.



RECOMMENDED HOME FUEL STORAGE LIMITS

2015 LIMITS & GUIDELINES

The information in this brochure is only intended to provide typical homeowners with general guidelines concerning emergency fuel storage at residential locations. Please consult your local fire department for definitive answers to any questions you might have, after reviewing the following recommendations.



Common Questions & Answers

Can I store emergency fuel containers inside my home, basement and/or attached garage?

NO! Generally speaking, we ask that you only store emergency fuel containers in a detached shed or garage to minimize fire hazards and ignition sources. Two or three (2 or 3) 1-gallon DOT rated containers for gasoline, and 2-cycle fuel for general operation of lawn maintenance equipment, are permissible in your attached garage. We have experienced many serious problems with larger quantities of fuel inside homes, basements, attached garages and carports.



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Common Questions & Answers

Can I store as many containers as I want in my garden shed or unattached garage?

No. Depending on the type of fuel (gasoline, kerosene, diesel, propane), you are only allowed to store limited quantities of each type of fuel, in certain kinds and sizes of containers. See the following guidelines each type of fuel.

What authority does the fire department have to tell me what I can and cannot do in my own home?

The legal authority comes from fire prevention related portions of the Utah State Code, the International Fire & Building Codes, the NFPA Standards and local city and county ordinances. This really is a life safety (your life safety) issue. Also, your homeowner's insurance provider would like you to keep the quantities of flammable liquids stored at your residence to a bare minimum.

Home Storage of Flammable Liquids

Gasoline & Coleman White Gas

- Maximum residential storage of flammable liquids (gasoline & white gas) shall be limited to **5 gallons** in an attached garage and no more than **10 gallons** outside of a building, unattached garage or shed. Absolutely no flammable liquid storage is allowed in basements.
- Empty containers shall be counted as full when calculating total storage capacity.

- Flammable liquid storage containers shall be of an approved type. Most of these containers are labeled as approved for flammable liquid use, and indicate the standards they are designed to meet (DOT, ASTM, NFPA 30, etc.). Always use approved or original retail containers. (Not Used Milk Jugs!)
- You need at least one 2A20BC rated fire extinguisher, located no closer than 10 feet, and no further away than 50 feet. Control of sources of ignition is mandatory! All transfer and dispensing of flammable liquids requires careful attention be paid to eliminating static spark discharge, and ignition of flammable vapors. Open flames and high temperature devices must be controlled and approved for use with flammable liquids. And, smoking is prohibited in the storage area.
- Flammable & Combustible liquids in the fuel tanks of motor vehicles (gasoline, diesel and 2-cycle blends) are exempt, and therefore not considered as a part of your total home fuel storage quantities.

Home Storage of Combustible Liquids

Diesel, Kerosene & Lamp Oil

- Maximum residential storage of combustible liquids (Diesel, Kerosene & Lamp Oil) shall be limited to **25 gallons** in an attached garage and no more than **60 gallons** outside of a building, unattached garage or shed. Absolutely no combustible liquid storage is allowed in basements.

- Combustible liquid storage containers shall be of an approved type. Most of these containers are labeled as approved for flammable liquid use, and indicate the standards they are designed to meet (DOT, ASTM, NFPA 30, etc.). Always use approved or original retail containers.
- At least one 2A20 BC rated fire extinguisher needed, located no closer than 10 ft. or further away than 50 ft.
- Control of sources of ignition is mandatory! All transfer and dispensing of combustible liquids requires careful attention to be paid to eliminating static spark discharge and ignition of flammable vapors. Open flames and high temperature devices must be controlled and approved for use with flammable and combustible liquids. Smoking is always prohibited in this storage area.
- Portable kerosene heating appliances shall be (UL) listed, and shall be limited to a fuel tank capacity of 2 gallons. However, the International Fire code specifically prohibits the use of these unvented heating appliances in occupied living spaces. If you decide to use these devices, closely follow the manufacturer's instructions for use, always maintain adequate separation from combustible surfaces, maintain good ventilation in order to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning, and use a battery powered carbon monoxide detector to detect dangerous conditions.