

YOUR HOME NEEDS FRESH AIR

Natural gas unvented heaters have been used to heat homes for years. Some are built into the walls (like bathroom heaters), and some sit as a separate appliance in a room. If you have a natural gas unvented heater in your home, here are some important reminders from your gas company on operating your unvented heater safely.

Recently more and more people have "weatherized" their homes to conserve energy. Caulking, weather-stripping, insulating, and adding storm windows are all good ideas. But care should be taken when operating unvented heaters in tightly sealed spaces. Space heaters that are designed to be unvented must have a constant supply of fresh air to operate safely. Without enough oxygen, your space heater can produce carbon monoxide.

Reoccurring headaches, weakness, nausea, dizziness, or unusual fatigue are all symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning. If you have these symptoms, get fresh air and have your unvented heater checked out by a qualified appliance repair person for problems.

TAKE THESE PRECAUTIONS IF YOU HAVE AN UNVENTED HEATER

- Open a window an inch or two in a room with an operating unvented heater. That will insure a steady fresh air supply
- Do not use an unvented heater in certain areas such as bedrooms, nursing homes, or hospitals.
- Make sure unvented heaters are properly connected with an approved connector.
- Be sure the heater has a protective guard or screen in place.
- Be especially careful of children in long, loose clothing, such as nightgowns, getting close to a space heater
- Don't store things around an unvented heater. The clearance standard of the manufacturer should be followed.
- Make sure the unvented heater burns with a steady blue flame, not a fluttering or a yellow flame.

GET ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We should all do our part for energy conservation. However, efforts at weatherizing homes, if carried to extremes, can sometimes result in such an air-tight home that your health and safety can be endangered by the lack of fresh air. The subject of fresh air and unvented gas appliances is very technical and cannot be fully covered in a brief brochure. For more information, call a certified heating and/or plumbing contractor.

Your safety is the most important thing in the world.

Properly used, natural gas is the safest, most cost-efficient energy you can bring into your home.