



PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN A CURE

During the colder months, staying warm is essential, but it's also important to be cautious of burn and fire risks associated with heating devices.

To ensure safety each winter, thoroughly check your heating devices before use and educate all household members on burn prevention practices.



Burns Registry of Australia and New Zealand 2022-2023

94%

OF BURN INJURIES WERE UNINTENTIONAL

75.6%

OF PEADIATRIC BURN INJURIES WERE IN THE HOME



TIPS FOR EDUCATING CHILDREN ON HEATER SAFETY

Teaching children about the importance of heater safety is an important step that parents and carers can take to prevent burn injuries. Here are some essential safety tips from Ben and Bella the burn safe superhero's:



Designate a 'No Go Zone'. Establish a clear area around the heater, typically about one metre, that children are taught to avoid to ensure they stay a safe distance from the heat source.



Supervise at all times. Always watch children when heaters are used to ensure they don't come too close.



Have important conversations. Discuss heater risks with children and explain the importance of following safety rules.



Teach first aid to all family members. Incorporate the "20 to Cool" rule into reading time with the Ben and Bella BurnSafe storybooks to share these important messages in a fun and engaging way.



REMEMBER! →

Burn cooling is critical in the initial first aid response to a burn injury.

If a burn injury occurs, cool the burn using cool running water for 20 minutes within three hours of sustaining the injury.

This simple but effective treatment can reduce the area and depth of the burn.

High-quality burn care starts with first-aid



GENERAL TIPS FOR ALL HEATERS:

- Conduct regular safety checks each winter to ensure your heater is functioning safely.
- Position portable heaters away from areas with high foot traffic to prevent them from being knocked over by people or pets.
- Keep heaters at least one metre away from any flammable materials such as bedding, curtains, and furniture to reduce the risk of fires.

GAS HEATERS:

- Regularly service unflued gas heaters and ensure the room is well-ventilated to prevent the accumulation of harmful gases. Avoid using unflued gas heaters in small, poorly ventilated spaces like bedrooms and bathrooms.
- Have your gas heater serviced by a licensed gas fitter every two years. Look out for signs of potential issues, such as difficulty in lighting, yellow flames, strange odors, or faulty fans.

ELECTRIC HEATERS:

- Examine electric heaters for any visible signs of wear or damage, such as rust on reflectors, especially in older units.
- Check the power cord regularly for any signs of damage or wear.
- Ensure any necessary repairs are carried out by a certified electrician or service technician to maintain safety and functionality.