

Cooking in RVs, Trailers and Campers Fact Sheet



Cooking in RVs, campers and trailers often means using propane, which poses a fire hazard.

Before loading propane cylinders into the vehicle, check that all connections and hoses have no leaks. Once thoroughly inspected, be sure to transport them properly. Stand the cylinder in an upright position, completely secured, closing all valves with a plug or cap.

In general, when using propane at the campsite:

- Ensure cylinders are upright and secure on a firm footing. Before each use, check the cylinder connections and hoses for leaks by brushing them with a 50/50 mix of liquid soap and water. Rising bubbles means there is a leak and the connections need to be tightened or the hose needs to be repaired or replaced.
- Keep cylinders at least three metres away from any flames or heat sources.
- Make sure igniter buttons work properly before you open the gas valve. If there is no igniter, insert a long match or barbecue lighter through the side burner hole before you turn on the grill controls.

- Maintain an area around the barbecue free of any combustible materials, and remove any grease from burner ports.
- If you are using the barbecue, stay close by, keep children and pets at least one metre away from the grill.

When using propane in your RV, trailer or camper:

- Clear exhaust vents on the exterior walls.
- Do not use stovetop burners or ovens as a source of heat.
- Propane appliances need an adequate supply of fresh air for proper combustion. Ensure your RV, camper or trailer is properly ventilated to prevent a build-up of carbon monoxide.
- Install a smoke alarm, carbon monoxide alarm and propane leak detector.