

Caravan safety

Gas safety self-check list for caravan owners and caravan park occupants



Creating a safer state
with electricity and gas

Caravan gas safety

Using gas appliances for cooking, heating or hot water in caravans and motor homes is safe and effective as long as simple precautions are taken.

Every gas burning appliance needs fresh air to operate correctly. Always make sure sufficient air is available. This is done by providing fixed ventilation openings, such as grilles or vents, to the outside of the caravan or motor home.

Faulty gas appliances or inadequate ventilation can cause carbon monoxide poisoning, which can be fatal or cause chronic illness. Always take care when using gas appliances in or around caravans and motor homes.

Did you know?

- Gas needs air to burn properly.
- Faulty gas appliances or poor ventilation may be the cause of unusual headaches, nausea or tiredness. Don't ignore these possible warning signs of carbon monoxide poisoning.
- A yellow gas flame usually means poor combustion.
- Portable gas heaters and unflued water heaters are not allowed to be used or installed in caravans.
- LP Gas sinks to the lowest level and may pool inside your caravan or motor home.
- If a leak has occurred allow plenty of time for the gas to disperse before turning on your gas appliance.
- Your gas appliances should be serviced every two years.

Guide to gas installations

Fixed gas appliances and pipework in your caravan or motor home must only be installed by a licensed plumber or gasfitter. Such persons should produce their licence on request.

Safety tips

If you suspect a gas leak:

- Turn off the appliances
- Turn off the cylinders
- Do not use any ignition sources
- Seek assistance.

Some other basic safety tips include:

- Always follow the appliance manufacturer's instructions for use
- Check hose and pipe connections before using the appliance
- Never leave ignited gas appliances unattended
- Never leave children alone with a portable gas appliance
- Store LP Gas cylinders outside, upright and away from sources of heat
- When transporting LP Gas cylinders, store them in a secure, upright position
- Do not ever use the cooker as a heater
- Do not ever use a portable gas heater inside your caravan or motor home
- Have a fire extinguisher or fire blanket handy
- As an extra precaution know the location of the caravan park's firefighting equipment.

Checklist

Gas cylinders	Yes	No
LP Gas cylinders correctly installed within a cylinder compartment, gas locker or externally on the caravan chassis.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
LP Gas cylinders, full or empty are stored outside.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
LP Gas cylinders are not used inside for cooking or heating.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cylinders installed away from ignition sources.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
LP Gas cylinders free of damage and corrosion (rust).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cylinders restrained against falling over, falling against one-another, secured while in transit and not subjected to mechanical shock.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Gas regulators	Yes	No
Regulator is installed in a well-ventilated location.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Regulator installed directly to the structure of caravan or motor home.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hose and pipe connections to the regulator and gas cylinders are gas tight.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Gas appliances	Yes	No
All gas appliances are in good condition.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
All gas appliances are operating correctly.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ventilation	Yes	No
The caravan or motor home has cross ventilation, i.e. at least two permanent openings at opposite ends or sides of the caravan.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ventilation is open, without dust, paint or other blockage and unobstructed.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Flueing	Yes	No
The flue is in good condition.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The flue is not blocked or unobstructed.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

 **Tip**

Faulty gas appliances or poor ventilation may be the cause of unusual headaches, nausea or tiredness. **Don't ignore these possible warning signs.**

For further information go to
www.esv.vic.gov.au or phone
ESV on **1800 652 563**.

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