

Gas barbecue safety tips

Know the drill before you grill



Creating a safer state
with electricity and gas

There are over 100 dangerous barbecue fires involving LP Gas cylinders every summer in Victoria. That's more than one barbecue fire every day of summer. Some of those fires turned into house fires, resulting in severe burns to arms and legs, and serious damage to family homes.

Stay safe: know the drill before you grill

Gas barbecues can be dangerous if not properly maintained. Gas escaping from your barbecue can lead to explosions or fires – LP Gas is highly flammable and easily ignited.

This brochure will help you maintain your LP Gas barbecue, and use it safely.



Know the drill – check for gas leaks

Follow these simple steps every time you use your barbecue.

- » Inspect the hose for signs of perishing or cracking – if the hose is cracked or has perished, don't use the BBQ until the hose has been replaced!
- » Make up a soapy water solution to check for leaks on your cylinder connection. Use any household detergent in a separate bottle with water – make sure you shake it up! Check for gas leaks by squirting the suds directly onto the connection between the hose and the cylinder.
 - › Bubbles will form if gas is escaping. If in doubt, turn off the gas and contact a licensed gasfitter.
 - › Leak test the connection to the cylinder every time you connect it or change cylinders – serious leaks are common and can be very dangerous.
 - › Check and leak test the connection every time you barbecue.
- » If no bubbles appear, you're safe to cook.



What to do if you see bubbles:

- » Switch off the gas immediately
- » Re-check the hose to make sure it hasn't perished
- » Re-check connections to make sure they are tight – get into the habit of doing this regularly
- » Check that the O ring on the connection hasn't perished
- » Check the gas cylinder for damage
- » Re-test with soapy water, and if bubbles still form turn off the gas and contact a licensed gasfitter.

Storing and transporting LP Gas cylinders

Remember to close LP Gas cylinder valves whenever they are not in use, particularly when they are being transported.

Also, ensure that cylinders are securely restrained when transporting – use a container such as a milk box to keep the LPG bottle upright and steady in your vehicle, and make sure that there is good ventilation.

Get a free soapy water bottle

Email us at merchandise@energysafe.vic.gov.au and we'll post you a free Energy Safe Victoria soapy water bottle to keep with your barbecue kit.

Tips

Get into the habit of doing a soapy water check. Know the drill before you grill, and make it a regular habit.

You can't refill a LP Gas cylinder if it hasn't been tested for over 10 years, or if the cylinder has been damaged. Always exchange LP Gas cylinders at a reputable supplier.



**Further information including
a demonstration video are
available on our campaign page:
esv.vic.gov.au/knowthedrill**

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