

## Space Heater Safety

The use of space heaters in offices is quite common in the winter. Even in warmer climates, winter mornings can bring a chill. And while these seemingly harmless devices may be an efficient way to heat a cold or drafty space, they can pose certain safety hazards when used incorrectly.

### What You Should Do:

Even though a space heater does not have an open flame, the heating elements of some are hot enough to cause nearby combustibles to ignite. Additionally, fires can be caused by improper use or faulty wiring, and burns can be caused by contact with the heating element or a hot surface. Therefore, taking appropriate safety measures is vital in preventing an accident. It is also important to review space heater policies with building management prior to purchase or use.

### Space Heater Safety Precautions:

Choose a space heater with a guard around the heating element.

Carefully follow the manufacturer's instructions on how far the heater should be placed from other objects.

Use a heater certified by a nationally recognized testing laboratory to meet safety standards.