

## Candle Safety Rules

The National Candle Association urges consumers to follow these rules for candle safety.

**Always keep a burning candle within sight.** Extinguish all candles when leaving a room or before going to sleep.

**Never burn a candle on or near anything that can catch fire.** Place candles away from drapes, bedding, carpets, books, paper, flammable decorations, etc.

**Keep candles out of the reach of children and pets.** Don't place lighted candles where they might be knocked over by children or pets.

**Trim candlewicks to ¼ inch each time before burning.** Long or crooked wicks cause uneven burning and dripping.

**Always use a candleholder specifically designed for candle use.** The holder should be heat resistant, sturdy and large enough to contain drips or melted wax.

**Be sure the candleholder is placed on a stable, heat-resistant surface.** This will also help prevent possible heat damage to underlying surfaces and prevent glass containers from cracking or breaking.

**Keep the wax pool free of wick trimmings, matches and debris at all times.** Always read and follow the manufacturer's use and safety instructions carefully. Don't burn a candle longer than the manufacturer recommends.

**Keep burning candles away from drafts, vents, ceiling fans and air currents.** This will help prevent rapid, uneven burning, and avoid flame flare-ups and sooting. Drafts can also blow lightweight curtains or papers into the flame where they could catch fire.

**Always burn candles in a well-ventilated room.** Don't burn too many candles in a small room or in a "tight" home where air exchange is limited.

**Don't burn a candle all the way down.** Extinguish the flame if it comes too close to the holder or container. For a margin of safety, discontinue burning a candle when 2 inches of wax remains or ½ inch if in a container.

**Never touch or move a burning candle when the wax is liquid.**

**Never use a knife or sharp object to remove wax drippings from a glass holder.** It might scratch, weaken, or cause the glass to break upon subsequent use.

**Place burning candles at least three inches apart.** This ensures they won't melt one another, or create drafts that can cause the candles to flare.

**Use a snuffer to extinguish a candle.** It's the safest way to prevent hot wax splatters.

**Never extinguish candles with water.** The water can cause the hot wax to splatter and might cause a glass container to break.

**Be very careful if using candles during a power outage.** Flashlights and other battery-powered lights are safer sources of light during a power failure.

**Make sure a candle is completely extinguished and the wick is no longer glowing before leaving the room.**

**Extinguish a candle if it flickers repeatedly, smokes, or the flame becomes too high.** The candle isn't burning properly. Let it cool, trim the wick, check for drafts and then re-light.

**Never use a candle as a night light.**