

Prevention of Campstove Burns

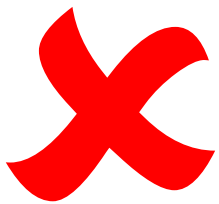
Factsheet

- Campfires, BBQs and bonfires are the most common cause of burns in adults*
- Campstoves are generally fuelled by isobutane-propane canisters, methylated spirits or other liquid fuels.
- These stoves are often in use around groups and are frequently situated on ground level. The user's hands and face are particularly vulnerable.
- Fuel vapours and flames from these stoves are often invisible in normal daylight conditions.
- Campstove use is often not near a source of clean, running water for ideal first aid. Any available water, even if it is not potable (drinkable) can be used for first aid.

*Data obtained from Burns Registry of Australia and New Zealand (BRANZ) 2020



- ✓ Do place the stove on a flat and level surface away from people and equipment
- ✓ Do use a specialised liquid fuel bottle
- ✓ Do wait until the burner has gone cold before refilling
- ✓ Do check seals and maintain your stove according to the manufacturer's instructions
- ✓ Do put stove on the ground to refuel.



- ✗ Do not add fuel whilst the flame is alight
- ✗ Do not leave stoves unattended while in use
- ✗ Do not hold the stove and fuel bottle/canister in the air
- ✗ Do not try blowing the flame out
- ✗ Do not throw used canisters into a campfire



First Aid for Burns

If you, or someone you know is burnt, take the following actions:

1. Remove clothing and jewellery
2. Apply cool running water to the burn for **20 minutes** (effective up to 3 hours after injury)

Spraying water or alternating wet cloths can help if limited water. If no water available a hydrogel burn first aid dressing can be used until water available. Caution use on large %TBSA due to hypothermia

Do NOT use ice, butter, creams or alternatives

3. Cover burn with clean cloth and keep the patient warm
4. Seek medical attention for any burn bigger than 3cm; or with blisters; or if any other concerns