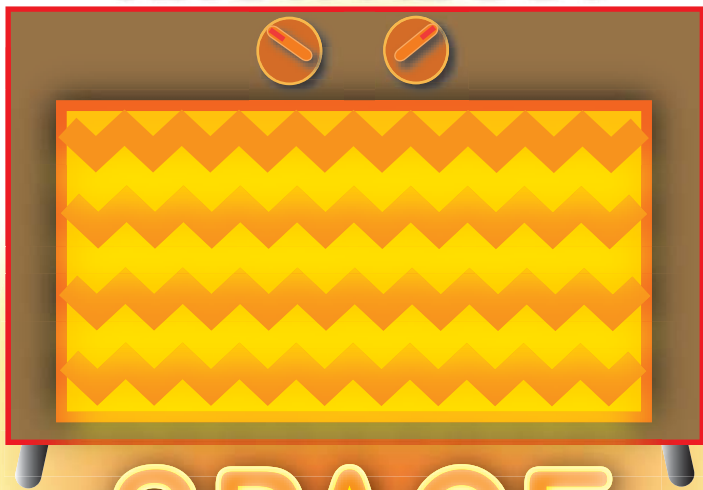


# WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT



## SPACE HEATERS

### THE HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT WANTS TO KEEP YOU SAFE & WARM

- Give Space Heaters their space- Keep them at least 3 feet away from combustibles-walls, sofas and anything else that will burn
- Space heaters should always be placed on the floor
- Never leave children alone in a room with a space heater and do not let children adjust the controls or move the heater
- Open-faced heaters should have a proper screen and grates in place-never operate a defective heater
- Provide adequate ventilation when using a gas space heater, opening a window slightly (one inch) to prevent carbon monoxide buildup
- Never overload outlets or breakers
- Don't hide cords under rugs or carpets. Placing anything on top of the cord could cause it to overheat and can cause a fire
- Don't use an extension cord with the heater. if the cord is hot to the touch, turn off the heater and unplug it!
- Electric heaters permanently installed in the wall or ceiling should have lint and dust removed regularly. Lint and dust will burn!
- Have your heating system professionally inspected and serviced every year
- Purchase a Carbon Monoxide detector if you use gas or a fireplace for your heating
- Install a Carbon Monoxide detector in the hallway near every separate sleeping area of the home
- If you use a gas space heater, light the match before you turn on the gas. This avoids the risk of flashback caused by accumulating gas
- According to Houston Fire Department statistics, about 100 fires every year are blamed on faulty furnaces or space heaters



A Message from the  
Houston Fire Department

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