Gas leaks and emergencies

A gas leak in a confined area can cause:
- nausea
- dizziness
- asphyxiation
- fire or explosion.

If there is an emergency or a life-threatening situation, call triple zero (000) immediately.

If you smell gas, stay calm and:
- turn off your gas appliances
- open all doors and windows
- turn off your gas cylinder or supply and isolate your power supply
- evacuate the area.

Do not use lighters or matches, or turn electrical appliances or lights on or off.

If the gas leak continues, call your gas supplier or a licensed gas fitter.

Reporting incidents and complaints

To report an incident or make a complaint about gas work or devices, email gassafe@dnrm.qld.gov.au or call 13QGOV (13 74 68) during business hours.

More information

For information about servicing and repairing your gas devices, contact your local gas fitter.

For information about your natural gas supply or LPG cylinders, contact your gas supplier.

For more information about gas safety, visit www.qld.gov.au and search for ‘gas safety’.
Gas device safety

Have a licensed gas fitter install, repair, regularly service and remove gas devices. Choose gas devices with these safety features:

Â· flame-failure devices, which cut off the gas if the flame is accidentally extinguished
Â· automatic reignition, which allows the appliance to re-light itself if the flame is accidentally extinguished.

Do not use portable or unflued gas devices inside, unless they are approved for indoor use.

Portable butane ‘lunch box’ cookers

Â· Use these according to the manufacturer’s instructions.
Â· Check whether your model of cooker has been suspended or recalled.

LPG is gas in a liquid form under high pressure, so you must be careful when storing, using and transporting LPG cylinders.

Â· Check cylinders regularly for damage, malfunction and leaks (a ‘rotten egg’ smell).
Â· Carry and store cylinders upright at all times.
Â· Check that valves are tightly turned off.
Â· Insert a ‘POL’ valve plug in the cylinder when it is not in use.
Â· Have an approved test station repair or replace cylinder valves if needed.
Â· Keep cylinders away from heat and direct sunlight where practicable.

Using gas cylinders

When using a cylinder with a low-pressure gas device, use a regulator to control the pressure. If you are not sure how to do this, ask the manufacturer or your gas supplier.

Â· Do not use damaged or corroded cylinders.
Â· Do not use cylinders that are out of date. The date is stamped on the base or the neck of the cylinder.

When you have finished using the device, make sure the regulator hose is empty of gas. To do this, turn off the cylinder valve while the gas device is still operating, then turn off the gas device valve.

Exchanging or refilling cylinders

LPG cylinders can be refilled or exchanged at your local LPG retailer.

Â· Before you purchase a cylinder or accept an exchange cylinder, make sure that it has a valve plug fitted.
Â· To be refilled, a cylinder must have a valid 10-year stamp.
Â· Do not refill your own gas cylinder. Only trained people using special equipment can do this safely.

Transporting cylinders

Transporting gas cylinders in enclosed vehicles can pose a safety risk.

Â· Do not carry a cylinder greater than 9 kg in an enclosed vehicle.
Â· You can transport up to 2 cylinders (of 9 kg or less) at a time in an enclosed vehicle.
Â· When transporting cylinders, secure them upright in the vehicle, preferably in the boot, with a plug firmly fitted in the POL valve.

Disposing of gas cylinders

You can dispose of cylinders safely at approved gas cylinder test stations, some council refuse centres and some gas suppliers.

Moving gas cylinders

Most removalist companies will not transport gas cylinders. Some gas suppliers operate an exchange system that allows you to surrender a cylinder in one city and obtain a voucher for a replacement in the new city. To retain a cylinder, have it certified as ‘gas free’ by a gas supplier or approved cylinder test station.

Around the yard

Find out where gas pipelines are on your property by calling Dial Before You Dig on 1100 during business hours. This free service provides the location of all relevant underground networks within two working days.


Online resources

Watch our gas safety videos for top tips on:

Â· safe use and installation of gas appliances
Â· butane ‘lunch box’ cookers
Â· safe use of BBQs and gas cylinders
Â· safety with LPG cylinders
Â· gas appliances and carbon monoxide.

To view these videos, visit www.qld.gov.au or scan the QR code.