

Dryer Safety Tips



According to the U.S. Fire Administration, dryer fires account for an average of 15,000 fires with an approximate \$88 Million in property damage, 15 deaths and 400 injuries annually. "Failure to clean" was cited as the leading factor contributing to clothes dryer fires in residential buildings.

We provide the following safety tips to minimize the risk of dryer fires:

- Be sure that dryer vent systems are up to code with city, state and manufacturer
- Replace any plastic or foil vent with semi-rigid or solid metal venting
- Clean screen lint trays before and after drying a load
- Wash lint screens with soap and water every few months to remove residue left behind by fabric softeners
- Have dryer vents professionally cleaned and inspected annually
- Don't keep combustibles like chemical cleaning products or chemical laden rags near dryers
- Don't leave the house or go to bed with your dryer running
- In cold weather, check outside vent cover to make sure it's not blocked or frozen shut

Warning signs to look for:

- Clothes are taking more than one cycle to dry, especially jeans and towels
- No lint visible on lint screen
- Dryer repeatedly stops during a cycle
- Clothes have moldy smell after dry cycle
- Clothes are very hot after a dry cycle

