



Grapevine Fire Department

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CANDLES AND OPEN FLAMES 2015 International Fire Code, Section 307 & 308

Open flame devices consisting of BBQ grills, charcoal burners, open flame decorative devices and candles can be used under the following restrictions.

1. Open flame devices may **not** be used in proximity to highly flammable, combustible or explosive material. Lighting appliances shall be well secured.
2. Throwing or placing a lighted cigarette, cigar, matches or other flaming or glowing substance (hot charcoal) or similar objects on any surface or article where it can cause a fire is prohibited.
3. Open Flame devices are prohibited in Assembly occupancies such as Churches, theaters or restaurants with first obtaining a permit from the Fire Department. Open Flame devices are prohibited in Schools without first obtaining a permit from the Fire Department.

COOKING DEVICES

4. Open flame cooking devices such as charcoal burners or propane grills shall not be operated on combustible balconies or within 10 feet of combustible construction.
 - a. *Except for one and two family homes or*
 - b. *Where the building or balcony or deck is provided with automatic fire sprinkler system.*
5. Propane otherwise known as liquefied petroleum gas burners having a container with a water capacity greater than 1 pound shall not be located on balconies or within 10 feet of combustible construction.

DECORATIVE DEVICES, Candles

6. Wall mounted candles, torch sconces, bug repellent candles in glass jars or metal cans, table top candles and oil lamps, free standing torch holders and candelabras can be used under the following criteria:
 - a. Flammable liquids (Gasoline) or LP gas shall not be used.
 - b. Liquid or solid fueled lighting devices containing more than 8 ounces of fuel must self extinguish and not leak fuel if tipped over.
 - c. The device or holder shall be constructed to prevent spillage of liquid fuel or wax.
 - d. The device or holder shall be design so that it will return to the upright position after being tilted to an angle of 45 degrees. Exception: Self extinguish if tipped over and do not spill fuel.
 - e. The flame shall be enclosed except where openings on the side are not more than .375 inch diameter or where openings are on the top and the distance to the top is such that a

- piece of tissue paper placed on the top will not ignite in 10 seconds.
- f. Chimneys shall be made of noncombustible materials and securely attached to the open flame device.
 - g. Shades where used shall be made of noncombustible materials and securely attached to the open flame device holder or chimney.
 - h. Candelabras with flame lighted candles shall be securely fastened in place to prevent overturning, and shall be located away from occupants using the area and away from possible contact with drapes curtains or other combustibles.
 - i. Candles are prohibited in areas where occupants stand, or in an aisle or exit.
7. Open flames shall not be located on or near decorative material or similar combustible materials.
 8. **Religious ceremony** participants may carry hand held candles when adequate safeguards are provided such as a fire watch and fire extinguishers, but shall not be passed from one person to another while lighted.

RELIGIOUS or ENTERTAINMENT

9. **Theatrical performances** using open flames must be approved and permitted by the Fire Department prior to use.
10. Open flame devices are allowed in Assembly occupancies under the following conditions.
 - a. **On stages and platforms** as necessary for a performance per the restrictions above.
 - b. **Candles on tables** are securely supported on substantial noncombustible based and the candle flames are protected in keeping with the above restrictions.
 - c. **Flaming food and beverages** shall be dispensed from one of the following, a 1 ounce container or a container not exceeding 1 quart with a controlled pouring device that limits the flow to a 1 ounce serving. Serving flaming foods or beverages shall be done in a safe manner and the pouring, ladling or spooning of liquids is restricted to a maximum height of 8 inches above the receptacle. Flaming food and beverages shall not be transported or carried while burning. A wet cloth towel will be present during the serving or preparation for smothering the fire in the event of an emergency.