ASK BLOSSMAN:

Summer Grilling Do's and Don'ts



Q. We just purchased a grill for our outdoor patio in our new home. We have never owned a propane grill and my husband and we are a bit concerned about how safe it is to grill with gas.

A1. First of all, propane is a naturally safe energy source and provides many benefits that ensure worry-free comfort. It has an enviable safety record and history due to the strict regulations and stringent codes developed by the propane industry in association with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).



GAS GRILLING DO's:

- Follow the grill manufacturer's instructions and keep written materials handy.
- Keep the top of the grill open until you are sure it is lit.
- Cover disconnected hose-end fittings with plastic bags or protective caps to keep a grill clean when it is not in use.
- Store propane cylinders outdoors in an upright (vertical) position.
- If you smell gas, safely turn off the cylinder valve, turning it to the right (clockwise). Immediately leave the area and dial 911 or call your local fire department. Before you use the grill again, have a qualified service technician inspect your cylinder. If you're cooking with propane, this is the most important of all grilling tips.

GAS GRILLING DON'TS:

- Smoke while handling a propane cylinder.
- Use matches or lighters to check for propane leaks.
- Pour an accelerant such as lighter fluid or gasoline on the grill.
- Allow children to tamper with the cylinder or grill.
- Use, store, or transport propane cylinders near high temperatures (this includes storing spare cylinders near the grill).
- Try to be a grill repairman. If you are having grill or propane cylinder problems, see a qualified service technician.

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