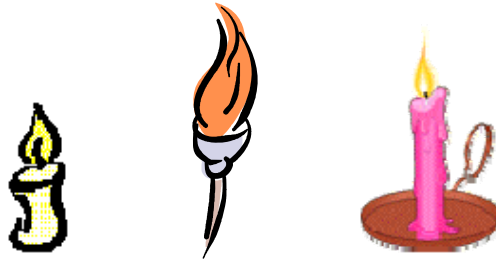




Candles and Other Open-Flame Devices



Title 19 of the California Fire Code requires candles and other open-flame decorative devices to be used in accordance with the following rules and guidelines. In addition, a [Candle/Open Flame FIRE PERMIT](#) issued by the UC Davis Fire Department is required. **A minimum of 72 hours is required to obtain the permit.** Contact the Fire Prevention Unit of the UC Davis Fire Department on campus at (530) 752-1236 or the UC Davis Medical Center at (916) 734-3036 to request a permit.

- 1) Hand-held open flame devices are prohibited inside buildings.
- 2) Flammable and Combustible liquids and LP-gas shall not be used.
- 3) Liquid or solid-fueled lighting devices containing more than 8 ounces (236.6 ml) must self-extinguish and not leak fuel at a rate of more than 1/4 teaspoon per minute (1.26 ml per minute) if tipped over.
- 4) The devices or holder shall be constructed to prevent the spillage of liquid fuel or wax at the rate of no more than 1/4 teaspoon per minute (1.26 ml per minute) when the device or holder is not in an upright position.
- 5) The device or holder shall be designed so that it will return to the upright position after being tilted to an angle of 45 degrees from vertical.

EXCEPTION: Units that self-extinguish if tipped over and do not spill fuel or wax at the rate of more than 1/4 teaspoon per minute (1.26 ml per minute) if tipped over.

- 6) The flame shall be enclosed except as follows:
 - a) Openings on the side shall not be more than 3/8 inch (9.5 mm) diameter.
 - b) Openings on the top of the candle holder and the distance to the top of the flame shall be 1 inch and such that a piece of tissue paper placed on the top will not ignite in 10 seconds.
- 7) Floating candles must still keep the top of the flame at least one inch below the glass top.
- 8) Chimneys shall be made of noncombustible materials. Such chimneys shall be securely attached to the open-flame device.

EXCEPTION: The chimney need not be attached to any open-flame device that will self-extinguish if the device is tipped over.
- 9) Fuel canisters shall be safely sealed for storage.
- 10) Storage and handling of combustible liquids shall be in accordance with Chapter 34 of the California Fire Code, *Flammable and Combustible Liquids*. For additional information contact the UC Davis Fire Department Fire Prevention Unit on campus at (530)752-1236 or UC Davis Medical Center at (916) 734-3036.
- 11) Shades, if used, shall be made of noncombustible materials and securely attached to the open-flame device holder or chimney.
- 12) Candelabras with flame-lighted candles shall be securely fastened in place to prevent overturning and located away from occupants using the area and away from possible contact with drapes, curtains or other combustibles.
- 13) Open flames such as candles shall not be located on or near decorative material or similar combustible material (exception: linen tablecloths).
- 14) Candles shall be prohibited in areas where occupants stand, or in an aisle or exit.
- 15) Permittees will be required to have a fire extinguisher in the room where the candles are being used. For events where only one or two candles are used, and a fire extinguisher is not immediately available, the Fire Department **MAY** authorize the use of a one-gallon bucket of water to be kept in close proximity to the open flames.

All candles and holders must be approved by the UC Davis Fire Department prior to use. The following are the types of votive/tea light candles and holders are **APPROVED**:



Roly Poly Type



Floating Candle



Tea Light



Floating Candle

Pillar Candles and votive/tea light candles in which the flame is not at least 1 inch below the holder opening are **NOT APPROVED** for use by the UC Davis Fire Department (shown below):



Votive Candles



Votive Candles



Pillar Candles