Home Oxygen Safety

Oxygen should always be handled with caution and awareness of the potential hazards — it is not flammable, but it can cause other materials to ignite easier and burn quicker. There are specific Fire Code requirements covering the use of liquid oxygen visit CAM 5120 at: www.seattle.gov/fire/fmo/firecode/cams.htm.

Oxygen Safety

- Never smoke or let others smoke near you while using oxygen.
- Use water-based lubricants and creams on your lips and hands. Don’t use vapor rubs, petroleum jelly or oil-based products.
- Don’t use oxygen while cooking with gas.

Oxygen Storage + Handling

- Tanks should be stored in a stand or a cart to prevent tipping or falling.
- Store oxygen in ventilated areas— not a closet or cabinet.
- Keep oxygen systems at least 5 feet away from heat and other ignition sources.
- Transport oxygen containers and tanks in the passenger area of a car—not the trunk.

Keep heat sources at least 5 feet away!
Be aware of the hazards.  
Oxygen can cause other materials that burn to ignite quicker and easier.  

Take precautions.  
Follow instructions from your medical and equipment provider.

Avoid direct contact with Liquid Oxygen as it can cause severe burns due to its extremely cold temperature.

Avoid touching any frosted or icy connectors of either the stationary reservoir portable unit.

Avoid contact with any stream of liquid while filling portable units.

Fire Code requires vessels with less than 15.8 gallons and keep in an upright position.

Learn more about Fire Code requirements for the use of Liquid Oxygen.

Compressed Gas is oxygen stored under pressure in a cylinder equipped with a regulator. Only use cylinders with less than 250 cubic feet at normal temperature and pressure.

Concentrators are electrical devices that separate oxygen out of the air, concentrate and store it. Only plug concentrators directly into a properly grounded or polarized outlet, without an extension cord or power strip.