

LPG Safety - Gas Cylinders & Gas Appliances



All new gas bottles are now fitted with a safety valve so if you do obtain a sudden gas leak the valve will close off. Whilst this is a fantastic feature it is causing some confusion with motorhome owners who have been using gas for years without any issues.

Trouble shooting tips:

1. Before removing your empty gas bottle make sure all appliances which use gas are completely turned off.
2. Get your bottle filled/swapped or grab your spare bottle out of the boot
3. Connect your gas bottle correctly to the main gas hose
4. Turn gas bottle on **SLOWLY** and wait 10 minutes before trying to use any of your gas appliances.
This gives time for the gas to slowly move between the valve and into the line without triggering the safety valve.

ALWAYS:

- ✓ Ensure work on fixed LPG installations whether new or being modified is carried out by a licensed or authorised gasfitter.
- ✓ With any LPG appliance or burner that fails to ignite immediately, turn off the gas supply and ventilate for at least three minutes to allow any gas to disperse before attempting to reignite.
- ✓ Ensure there is adequate ventilation when using LPG appliances (especially unflued appliances) to allow fresh air for consumption and removal of burnt gases.

NEVER:

- Tamper with the safety valve or other cylinder fittings. All gas work must be carried out by an Approved practitioner.
- Use undue force to open or close the main cylinder valve. If in doubt, consult a licensed gasfitter.

Care of LPG Cylinders and Fittings:

- ✓ Every cylinder must be inspected by an authorised LPG test station at least once every 10 years.
- ✓ The last inspection date should be clearly stamped on the cylinder collar, neck, or footing.
- ✓ If any leakage is detected or suspected from a cylinder, turn it off immediately and **REFER TO EMERGENCY PROCEDURES.**
- ✓ LPG cylinders (except specially designed forklift and automotive cylinders) must always be stored and transported in an upright position. This ensures the safety valve is not immersed in the liquid and is in the vapour space as required by its design approvals.
- ✓ Cylinders should be stored in a well-ventilated space and away from possible sources of ignition, excess heat, or other compressed gases.
- ✓ Always secure cylinders during transport,
- ✓ Shut off cylinder valve before disconnecting from appliance and ensure appliances are turned off before connecting new cylinder.

Use and Care of LPG Appliances:

- Installation and maintenance of LP Gas appliances must only be carried out by licensed or authorised LPG installers or service companies.
- The installer is responsible to ensure that new or replacement appliances are connected, tested, adjusted and in safe working order.
- Appliance operating instructions should be handed to the consumer and explained by the installer.
- LPG appliances must not be connected to other gas supply systems, such as natural gas.
- Adequate ventilation must be provided to allow air for satisfactory combustion and ensure ample dispersal of the burnt gases. This is particularly important for unflued appliances.
- Installations in caravans, recreational vehicles and boats must comply with the installation code applicable to fixed appliances.

- Cylinder compartments must be sealed from the interior of vehicles/boats and vented to the outside.
- Never use any gas appliance, including a refrigerator, in a moving vehicle.
- Turn off every LPG appliance in caravans/boats before refueling.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

- ✓ Leak suspected - Location Uncertain
- ✓ Ventilate the area and make sure all bottles are turned off and disconnected
- ✓ Contact your nearest gas fitter for inspection and repair.

Leaking Cylinder or Appliance - On Fire:

- ✓ If the valve is undamaged and it's safe to do so, close it and let the fire go out. Do not use again until inspected.
- ✓ If the valve cannot be closed, call the fire brigade or gas dealer, advising location, that it is LPG and cylinder size.
- ✓ Keep cylinder cool by water hose but **DO NOT** attempt to extinguish flame.
- ✓ Unburnt gases in confined space may explode if reignited. Keep clear and await assistance.
- ✓ If there is any possibility of cylinder(s) being engulfed by fire, evacuate the adjacent area.

Cylinder Exposed to Excessive Heat:

- Keep cylinder cool with a water hose, sprayed from the maximum possible distance.
- Remove from heat source if safe and possible to do so.