Candle Safety in the Home

In most cases, candles caused house fires when left unattended or if tipped over. Children playing near open flames are a large contributing factor to house fires.

In Canada, approximately 37% of all fire losses occur in the home. While there may be many causes of fire in the home, a large number are due to candles.

The following steps should be taken to minimize your risk:

- Never leave candles unattended
- Trim candle wicks to 5-7mm before and during burning
- Avoid buying candles with multiple wicks
- Use well ventilated candle holders that will not tip over
- Keep candles 1m away from combustible materials
- Extinguish candles before you leave or go to sleep
- Do not burn candles with lead in the wick. Always ask retailer if unsure
- Avoid using decorative oil lamps if there are children under 5 in the home to minimize the risk of them swallowing the fuel
- Teach children to be cautious around open flame.

www.brocku.ca/safety

Did you know?
Brock University has an open flame policy? No candles should be used on campus without a permit.