

Guidelines For Heating of Tent Interiors

What is not Approved?

Per International Fire Code (IFC), the following heating devices are not approved for interior Tent use.

IFC:

Section 603.4.2.1.1 Prohibited Locations. The storage or use of portable outdoor gas-fired heating appliances is prohibited in any of the following locations:

1. Inside of any occupancy where connected to a fuel gas container. (propane, natural gas or gasoline).
2. Inside of **tents**, canopies and membrane structures.
3. On exterior balconies.

Section 3104.7 Open or exposed flame. Open flame or other devices emitting flame, fire, heat or any flammable or *combustible liquids*, gas, charcoal or other cooking device or any other unapproved devices shall not be permitted inside or located within 20 feet of the tent or membrane structures while open to the public unless *approved* by the *fire code official*.



The above are examples of the types of heating units that are prohibited inside of tents. This list is not all inclusive but only an example of a few prohibited gas-fired heaters.

***Approved for Exterior use only- Must be secured at the base to prevent tipping over.**

What is Approved?

Propane fed heaters may be used for heating tents, as long as they are outside of the tent and have a tube which blows the warm air into the tent keeping the heater a safe distance from the tent!

Section 603.4.2.1.2 Clearance to buildings. Portable outdoor gas-fired heating appliances shall be located not less than 5 feet from buildings.

Section 603.4.2.1.3 Clearance to combustible materials. Portable outdoor gas-fired heating appliances shall not be located beneath, or closer than 5 feet to combustible decorations and combustible overhangs, awnings, sunshades or similar combustible attachments to buildings.



The above are examples of the types of heating units that are approved propane heaters for exterior use for tents. This list is not all inclusive but only an example of approved heaters.

Electric Heaters?

Section 604.10 Portable, electric space heaters. Where not prohibited by other sections of this code, portable, electric space heaters shall be permitted to be used in all occupancies in accordance with Sections 604.10.1 through 604.10.5.

- **604.10.1 Listed and labeled.** Only listed and labeled portable, electric space heaters shall be used
- **604.10.2 Power supply.** Portable, electric space heaters shall be plugged directly into an *approved* receptacle.
- **Extension cords.** Use of Extension cords must be approved by a Licensed Electrician.
- **604.10.4 Prohibited areas.** Portable, electric space heaters **shall not be** operated within 3 feet of any combustible materials. Portable, electric space heaters shall be operated only in locations for which they are listed.



The above are examples of the types of heating units that are approved Electric heaters for interior use for tents. This list is not all inclusive but only an example of approved heaters.