



Dallas Fire-Rescue Department Inspection & Life Safety Education Fire Code Requirements for Hot Work

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This checklist will provide **some** guidelines for the use of welding, cutting, and other hot-work equipment in accordance with Chapter 26 of the Dallas Fire Code. If you have any questions or concerns, call Dallas Fire-Rescue at 214-670-4319.

HOT WORK is operations that include cutting, welding, Thermit welding, brazing, soldering, grinding, thermal spraying, thawing pipe, installation of torch-applied roof systems, or similar operations.

- A separate \$80 permit is required for each separate activity and location where these activities are being conducted. Mobile welding vehicles are required to obtain a separate permit for each vehicle. A permit expires one year from the date of issuance.
- A fire watch shall be provided during hot-work activities and shall continue for a minimum of 30 minutes after the conclusion of the work. The permittee or personnel designated by the permittee shall conduct the fire watch. Enough personnel shall be provided to ensure the entire hot work area is monitored.
- Individuals designated to fire watch duty shall have fire-extinguishing equipment readily available.
- A minimum 2A-20BC rated fire extinguisher shall be located within 30 feet of the hot work operation.
- Before hot work is conducted, at least once per day the area shall be inspected to ensure that it is a fire safe area.
- Hot work areas shall not contain combustibles or shall be provided with appropriate shielding to prevent sparks, slag or heat from igniting exposed combustibles.
- Openings or cracks in walls, floors, ducts or shafts within the hot work area shall be tightly covered to prevent the passage of sparks or shielded by metal fire-resistant guards or curtains to prevent passage of sparks.
- Floors shall be kept clean within the hot work area and shall have a noncombustible surface in fixed hot work areas.
- Hot work shall not be conducted in rooms or areas where flammable liquids or vapors, lint, or dust is at risk of ignition from sparks or hot metal.

- Oxygen and fuel-gas cylinders and acetylene generators shall be located away from the hot work area to prevent cylinders or generators from being heated by sparks or misdirection of the torch flame.
- Automatic sprinkler protection shall not be shut off while hot work is performed.
- For gas welding and cutting, testing for leaks in piping systems and equipment shall be made with soapy water. Use of flames is prohibited for leak testing.
- Damaged, leaking, or worn hoses shall not be used. All equipment, such as gauges and regulators, shall be maintained in good condition.
- Damaged cables (electric welding equipment) shall be removed from service until properly repaired or replaced.
- Where fixed electric welding equipment is used, an emergency disconnect switch or circuit breaker shall be provided. The disconnect shall be marked "EMERGENCY DISCONNECT" and shall be visible from the equipment.
- The frame or case of electric hot work machines shall be grounded.
- Visible hazard identification signs shall be provided where required. If the hot work area is accessible to persons other than the operator of the equipment, conspicuous signs are required to be posted stating:

CAUTION—HOT WORK IN PROGRESS—STAY CLEAR

- **Any person performing hot work without an approved permit from the Dallas Fire-Rescue Department or any person who violates a fire code requirement for hot work is subject to a fine up to \$2000.00.**