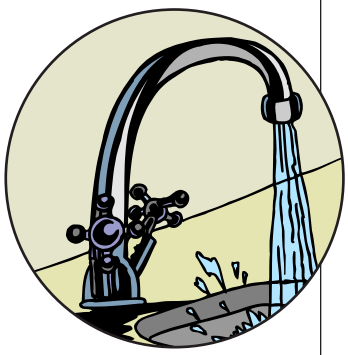
Hot Liquids Burn Like Fire

Scalds caused 83% of all burns to children under five.

Hot Beverages

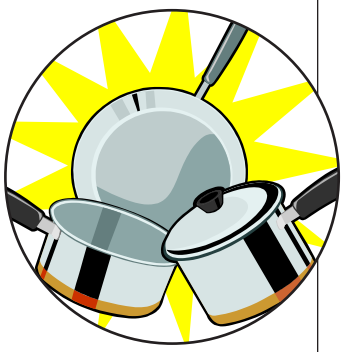
- Put coffee down when you hold a baby. A wiggling baby can jiggle your arm and spill the drink all over himself.
- Put drinks and soups toward the center of the table away from curious fingers. Babies like to grab things.
- Consider replacing tablecloths with place mats to prevent children from pulling everything on the table onto themselves.
- Hot beverages caused almost one-quarter of the burns to children under age five.
- Eighty-three percent (83%) of people burned by hot beverages were under five.

Tap Water



- It takes only one second for water at 155˚F to cause a third degree burn.
- Set your hot water heater to temperatures of 125˚F or less. (Massachusetts law states that the temperature must be between 110˚F and 130˚F.)
- Always supervise young children in the bath and face them away from faucets. Babies and toddlers like playing with knobs and levers. They may turn on the hot water when you turn your back.

Cooking



- Turn pot handles inward.
- Establish and enforce a **NO** zone around the stove. Do not let children play near a stove or barbecue. This protects children from cooking liquids, grease and hot metal.
- Children under age five are 5 times more likely to be burned by cooking activities than others.
- Thirty-seven percent (27%) of all cooking-related burns were suffered by children under five years old.

Statistics obtained from the 2013 Annual Report of the Massachusetts Burn Injury Reporting System.

FireFactors

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