

ELECTRICAL

Surge Protectors with a reset switch plugged directly into the wall – 3-prong type only
 3-Pronged Heavy Duty Extension Cord with one outlet and one appliance plugged directly into the wall
 Appliances with an outlet or USB ports; (i.e. lamps, vanity mirrors, etc.)
 UL-approved electrical devices that meet other fire safety standards

Power or plug-in tools cannot be used in the room
 If needed, space heaters provided by SMU (must be unplugged when not in the room)
 Battery backup (universal power) devices less than 600 watts

2-Pronged extension cords
 Surge protector or extension cord plugged into a surge protector or extension cord (“daisy chain” fashion)
 Extension cords with multi-plug outlets
 Any non UL-approved electrical devices
 Fog or smoke machines
 Gasoline powered equipment (i.e. generator)



Items listed in Green boxes are permitted



Items listed in Yellow boxes permitted with exceptions



Items listed in Red boxes are NOT PERMITTED in residence halls

LAMPS/LIGHTING

Fluorescent or LED bulbs
 Battery-operated LED candles
 Lights with an outlet
 UL-approved lights that meet other fire safety standards

No more than three strands of lights (miniature style) may be connected together and may not be hung around doors or touch the metal part of the bed

Lava and oil lamps
 Candles / incense
 Black lights
 Halogen or incandescent bulbs
 Any non UL approved lights

UL-approved personal appliances that meet other fire safety standards

Appliances with heating elements must be unplugged when not in use

- clothes irons
- curling irons
- hair straighteners
- curlers
- garment steamers
- and the like

Any non UL-approved personal appliances

PERSONAL APPLIANCES

COOKING/KITCHEN

UL-approved appliances that meet other fire safety standards
 Pod-style coffee makers (may remain plugged in)

Appliances must be attended when in use and those with heating elements (no open coils) must be unplugged when not in use

- Coffee pots
- Electric kettles

1 Refrigerator per bedroom (not more than 3.1 cubic feet)

Unattended cooking such as when using the residence hall community microwave

Microwaves

Broilers, electric skillets, grills (charcoal, gas and cooking), woks

George Foreman grills and the like

Slow cookers/rice cookers

Toaster ovens/toasters

Hot plates/induction plates

Any cooking device with open coils

Any non UL-approved appliances

Shopping?



Grab a checklist here!

DECORATING THE ROOM

Free-standing air fresheners or potpourri, such as Glade® Sense & Spray
 Canned air-fresheners, such as Febreze®
 Electric wax warmers, such as Sensy®
 Air purifiers
 Humidifiers

Beads or curtains may be hung over closet doorways only with tension rods

Artificial trees under 3’ or live trees under 18”. Trees may not have lights on them.

Decorations may be hung using the approved method for a specific residence hall so long as they are flush to the wall and do not cover more than 25% of the wall

Decorations may be hung with white sticky tack or painters tape, not 3M™ strips. Additional approved methods vary by residence hall and may be found on our website at www.smu.edu/housing

Access to windows may not be blocked by more than 50%. Anything placed in front of the window must be easily movable in the event of an emergency (i.e., no large furniture)

Plug-in air freshener or vaporizer

Reed diffuser type air freshener

Decorations may not project away from the walls, be suspended in the air, or be hung from the ceiling (for example: fish nets, flags, parachutes, posters, wires, tent-like structures)

Decorations cannot be on or hung from a soffit or overhang in a student room and cannot hinder exit from the room

Any wiring running through ceiling or hard wiring. Wiring cannot touch metal

Attachments near or on sprinkler heads (there must be an 18” clearance around the head) or water pipes

Blocking flow of water from sprinkler heads

Residence Hall Fire Safety Regulations

Fire safety violations result in a minimum \$150 fine. Additional violations found on the same date will increase the fine by \$50 per violation, up to \$250. Cost for any damages caused by fire safety violations will also be charged to the resident(s) and may result in conduct action.

1. When a violation is found, residents will be notified by email or by written notice left in the room.
2. Residents have 72 hours to discuss responsibility with their Residential Community Director.
3. If resident(s) do not contact the Residential Community Director within 72 hours, the fine will be divided equally between roommates and/or suitemates and charged to the student accounts.
4. Residents are encouraged to participate in educational opportunities to reduce the fines.
5. Residents who have questions about fire safety or who have a prohibited item are responsible for discussing it with a Residential Community Director immediately. The Residential Community Director will store any prohibited items if the resident brings it to his/her attention prior to Safety and Maintenance Inspections.

Prohibited Behavior

Smoking and/or evidence of smoking in the building or within 25 feet of a building

Any form or source of an open flame in the building

Possessing flammable/combustible liquids or gases

Possessing chemicals other than cleaning supplies

These violations will be investigated and sanctioned by the University Park Fire Department. Sanctions referred to a municipal judge may include up to a \$2,000 fine. In addition, residents are sanctioned by the SMU Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards. SMU sanctions may include a \$500 fine and removal from the Residence Halls. These violations are considered Class C misdemeanors.

- Discharging or removing a fire extinguisher
- Fireworks of any type/explosives/gun powder
- Tampering with control valves
- Breaking sprinkler head(s)
- Removing or covering smoke/heat detectors
- Disabling/tampering with fire suppression system
- Disabling/tampering with fire alarm system
- Criminal mischief/Arson
- Tampering, covering or damaging the following: fire exit lights, fire exit signs, pull stations, horns, strobes, fire exit doors
- Obstructing or locking fire exit doors
- Failure to evacuate in a timely matter when the fire alarm sounds

Residence Hall Fire Safety Regulations



Photos by Hillsman Jackson, Reneé Gibson ©SMU
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Ensuring Resident Safety

At Southern Methodist University (SMU), Residence Life & Student Housing (RLSH) works closely with the Office of Police and Risk Management and the University Park Fire Marshal to educate residents about fire prevention. All students residing in residence halls are expected to abide by the fire safety regulations and policies to better ensure the safety of the entire residential community. The list of violations is subject to change at any time and will be communicated by official postings in the residence halls.

All resident rooms are inspected for safety and maintenance at least once per semester by University staff and/or the University Park Fire Marshal. The purpose of inspections is to enhance safety of all residents, assess need for repairs and to enforce residence hall policies, including fire safety regulations. Residents will be notified of violations via email or written notice left in the room. Prohibited items will be confiscated by the Residential Community Director and/or designated staff during inspections. Residents are responsible for violations in their rooms, even if they are not directly responsible for the prohibited item or condition leading to the violation. Prohibited items may be a violation, even if not in use.

Do You Know...

How to Prevent a Fire?

How to Avoid a Fire Safety Fine?



**Start Here! Read the policies
and learn what is allowed & what is not**

Residence Hall Fire Safety Contact Information

SMU Fire Manager
Office of Risk Management
214-768-4203

Questions, Comments, Suggestions of Feedback on Fire Safety?

Email: safety@smu.edu

Call Residence Life & Student Housing 214-768-2407

RLSH Website: smu.edu/housing

Five Easy Ways to Avoid a Fire Safety Fine

1

The number one way to avoid a fine and the easiest to do-- unplug appliances with heating elements (hair straightener, iron, coffee pot) while not in use

2

Not enough light in the room? Use compact fluorescent (CF) or LED bulbs in your lamps

3

Use only a 3-prong surge protector with an on-off switch (avoid any other "extension" cord)

4

Need to freshen the air? Use only canned or freestanding air fresheners

5

Read and follow the fire safety regulations, and ask questions if you're not sure about something!