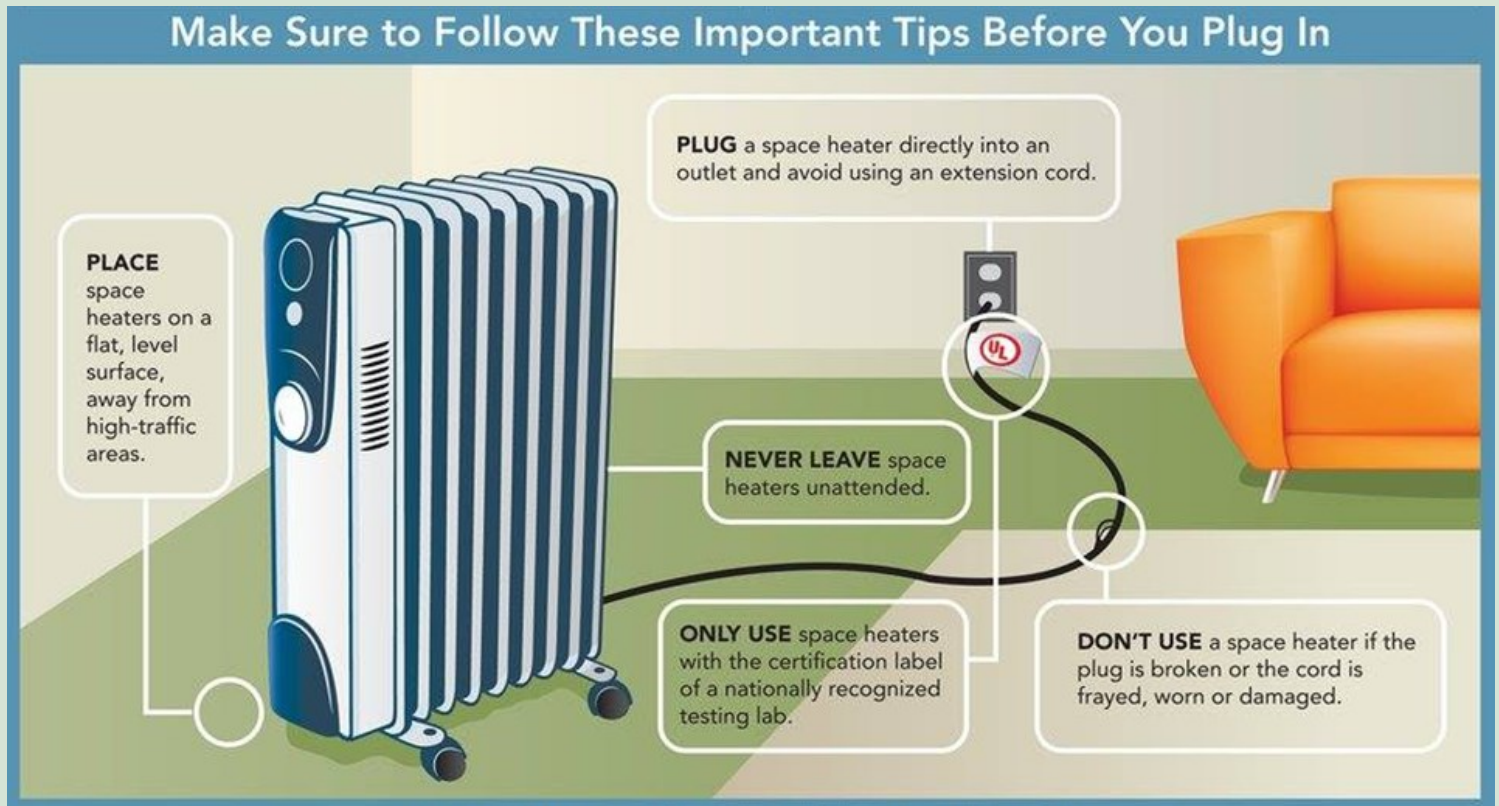


# Campus Guide to Space Heater Safety



**Policy and Enforcement:** Space heaters pose serious fire and electrical hazards and are not energy efficient. Therefore, the use of space heaters at UTRGV is strongly discouraged and should only be reserved for times of heating system failures. If you are feeling cold, contact Facilities to request assistance in adjusting the temperature of an area. If the work area cannot be heated to the satisfaction of the occupants, EHSRM should be contacted. EHSRM reserves the right to inspect and declare “unapproved” any space heater that creates a safety hazard or is inappropriate to a particular location. Please note that space heaters are not permitted in residential occupancies, laboratories, storage areas or unoccupied areas. No open-coil space heaters.

**Safe Use:** Make sure your space heater has an **AUTO SHUT-OFF** function. **NEVER** pair your space heater with an extension cord or power strip and do not share the **OUTLET** with any other devices. **READ** the manufacturer’s instructions and warning labels carefully. Keep anything that can burn (papers/files, rugs, curtains, desks, etc.) at least **3 FEET** away from the space heater. Always **UNPLUG** after use.



Contact Environmental Health, Safety and Risk Management  
prior to purchasing and/or installing a space heater.  
EHSRM@UTRGV.EDU or (956) 665-3690.