

Scalding From Excessively Hot Tap Water

According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, there are approximately 3,800 burn injuries, and 34 deaths caused by excessively hot tap water. Most of the incidents involve children under five years old, and adults over the age of 65. It takes about a half of a second for a baby to suffer a severe burn in 150 degree F. water versus four minutes in water at 120 degrees F.. The below suggestions may help to limit your exposure to “scalding water”.

- The water heater should be set following the manufacturer’s recommendation found in your owner’s manual. According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission you should never set it above 120 degrees F.
- Always check the water with your hand before entering or placing a child into hot water to verify that it is not excessively hot.
- Never leave a child unattended or with other young children while in a bath tub or shower, they may be able to turn the hot water on and scald themselves.

