Grills & Fire Code Requirements



Play it safe! - Please no grills of any type on your balconies.

Cooking on Balconies

The Florida Fire Prevention Code prohibits any cooking on a balcony of an apartment or condominium, other than listed electric portable, tabletop grills, not to exceed 200 square inches of cooking surface.

Storage of Grills on Balconies

The Florida Fire Prevention Code prohibits any cooking devices to be stored on balconies other than those allowed.

Storage of L.P. Gas or Gas Grills

The Florida Fire Prevention Code also prohibits the storage or use of L.P. gas in quantities greater than 2 1-pound tanks above the first floor in any apartment or condominium. Therefore, L.P. gas grills cannot be stored on a balcony. It is important to note that L.P. gas cylinders cannot be stored inside the residential unit or anywhere above the first floor.

The specific code sections are as follows:

NFPA 1:10.10.6.1 For other than one- and two-family dwellings, no hibachi, grill, or other similar devices used for cooking, heating, or any other purpose shall be used or kindled on any balcony, under any overhanging portion, or within 10 ft (3 m) of any structure. (Per NFPA 1, Uniform Fire Code, Florida FPC 6th Edition)

NFPA 1:10.10.6.1.1 Listed electric portable, tabletop grills, not to exceed 200 square inches of cooking surface, or other similar apparatus shall be permitted.

NFPA 1:69.5.3.5 **Storage Within Residential Buildings.** Storage of cylinders within a residential building, including the basement or any storage area in a common basement storage area in multiple-family buildings and attached garages, shall be limited to cylinders each with a maximum water capacity of 2.7 lb (1.2 kg) and shall not exceed 5.4 lb (2.4 kg) aggregate water capacity for smaller cylinders per each living space unit.

PLEASE NOTE: Many condominiums or apartment complexes have regulations on the use of barbecue grills that exceed fire code requirements. Please check with your management staff to see what requirements or exceptions apply to use of grills at your complex.