

Act Fast!

Initial **First Aid** Steps for Minor **Contact Burns**



Get Away from the Heat Source

If it's safe, **quickly** and **gently** move yourself or the person away from the hot surface to **stop the burn** and prevent further skin damage.



Cool the Burn

Immediately run **cool (not cold) water** over the burn for **10–20 minutes.** This helps reduce pain, swelling, and skin damage. No access to running water? Use a clean, cool, wet compress.

Do **not** apply ice, butter, or home remedies - they can worsen the injury.



Assess the Burn

Check the area to determine if the burn is **minor.** Minor burns usually have mild redness, pain, and swelling.

If the burn is large, deep, or appears white, charred, waxy, leathery, or translucent - or if there are blisters or no feeling when the area is touched seek medical care immediately, as these indicate a more serious injury.

When in doubt, call 911 - it's better to be safe.



Remove Tight Items

Remove any **rings**, **jewelry**, **or tight clothing** near the burned area as soon as possible, before swelling begins.



Cover the Burn

Use a **clean, non-stick** bandage or cloth. Keep it **loose** to avoid pressure on the burned skin.

Change the bandage daily and keep the area clean and dry.



Relieve Pain

Over-the-counter medications like ibuprofen or acetaminophen can help **reduce pain and swelling.**

Always follow the label directions and consult with your doctor as needed.





Monitor for Signs of Infection

Watch for **redness** spreading, increased **pain, pus, or fever**.

Signs of infection usually manifest several days after injury.

If any of these occur, seek medical care immediately.



HOSPITAL

Don't Wait to Seek Care

- Even small burns can be deeper than they appear. Delaying care can lead to serious complications and damage.
- Seek medical care **immediately** if you, or someone you know, has **suffered burns** from hot pavement or other surfaces.
- When in doubt or if you think a life is in danger, **call 911.**

Source: The Diane & Bruce Halle Arizona Burn Center - Valleywise Health Team



Burn injury care you can trust.

The Diane & Bruce Halle Arizona Burn Center - Valleywise Health

Burn Center: 602-344-5726

If you are experiencing a medical emergency, call **911**.