

# Computer experts suggest using a fan to keep your laptop cool



**By Chris Loomis, Safety Expert**

The Consumer Product Safety Council (CPSC) reports at least 47 incidents of smoke and fire damage which were linked directly to an overheating laptop computer. Hmm. I wonder what those people were looking at!



**Help your laptop keep its cool.**

To keep yourself and your computer free from harm, both at home and at the office, keep the following tips in mind:

- Do not use your laptop on a soft surface such as a bed, sofa, chair or puppy. It will block the vents and may cause overheating. The puppy just does not care to be used that way.
- Do not use batteries or chargers that are not meant to be used with this computer. (Just because you can hammer a battery into the compartment does not mean that it is a good idea).
- Do not drop your laptop. Doing so may crack components, damage the battery, or cause a break in the monitor. If you do drop it, take it to the computer doctor, stat.
- Remember, a computer gets warm when it is being used. Just because it is called a laptop does not mean it is a good idea to use it on your actual lap. Burns are not all that uncommon.
- Never use your laptop while driving. (Don't laugh, it happens!)
- Do not allow your laptop to get wet. No laptops in the bathtub. Do not use them as an umbrella and never, ever take one to the beach. (Laptops are notoriously afraid of seagulls and sand).

Laptops give you the freedom to move around without being tied to your desk, but they can also be dangerous if used improperly. Make sure that you use your laptop safely both at home and in the office.

Safety is an attitude that begins in our thoughts. We can create an accident-free environment at work and at home if we believe we can and are committed to the process.

Chris has more than 20 years of professional safety experience. As the marketing manager for DuPont's environmental and safety services, he has seen first-hand the safety challenges faced by plant personnel while working with more than 600 chemical, petrochemical, and manufacturing facilities. Chris is an award-winning international safety speaker and author.

**For more information or to book your next safety speaker, please visit <http://www.safetyattitude.com> or call Chris Loomis at 713-927-6592.**