

Dryer Venting Dangers

Flexible white plastic dryer vent hose is unsafe:

- Ribbed surface restricts air flow.
- Lint builds up in the vent and dryer.
- Restricted air flow and lint buildup can cause overheating and dryer fires.
- If a fire starts, plastic vent hose burns, spreading the fire.

Plugged plastic vents are inefficient:

- Clothes take longer to dry and you pay a higher energy bill.
- May cause dryer parts to fail.
- May void the warranty on new dryers.

To avoid dangers:

- Clean lint filter with every load.
- Clean inside, behind, and underneath the dryer where lint can also build up.
- Replace white plastic vent hose with metallic vent pipe.
- Buy packaged duct only with UL listing.
- Connect duct with solid metal elbows at the dryer and vent cap.
- If you already have a metal vent, clean it out at least once a year.
- Clean lint from vent where it exits the wall.
- Be sure outside flap opens when dryer is running.
- Take special care drying clothes stained with volatile chemicals such as gasoline, cooking oils, cleaning agents or finishing stains. Wash the clothing more than once to lower the amount of these chemicals on the clothing, and line dry instead of using a dryer.
- Occasionally wipe the sensor with a soft cloth or cotton ball and rubbing alcohol to keep it working properly. Sensors are usually located on the inside of the dryer, just below the door opening, and can be hard to find. They are usually two metallic strips, shaped somewhat like the letter "C."



Flexible White Plastic



Rigid Metal