

Toaster Ovens and Toasters: Shock, Burn and Fire Hazards

by *Injury Attorney* on 07/27/11

Before dropping another piece of bread in the toaster or heating up a pizza in your toaster oven, check to be sure you're using one of the safest models on the market. Far too often, consumers suffer serious burns and electrical shocks when using these types of appliances. Over time, cords can become frayed and internal wiring can develop problems due to overheating and poor maintenance. Please review the following list of **defective toasters** and toaster ovens so you can try to protect everyone you know from using defective appliances.

Recently Recalled Toasters and Toaster Ovens

- **Hamilton Beach Brands Inc.**, of Glen Allen, Virginia, had to recall close to 300,000 **Hamilton Beach® Classic Chrome Two-slice Toasters** in June of 2011 because of their defective heating elements that can pose fire hazards to consumers;
- In June of 2009, **W. P. Appliances Inc.**, recalled about 7,040 **Wolfgang Puck Toaster Ovens/Toasters** due to defective "on/off" switches that can create fire risks;
- **Haier America Trading L.L.C.**, of New York, New York, had to recall about 106,000

Toaster Ovens/Broilers in April of 2009 due to faulty electrical connections inside some of these appliances that can cause shock and burn risks to consumers;

- **Village Range Corp.**, of Greenwood, Mississippi, had to recall approximately 10,000 **Four-Slice Electric Toasters** in January of 2009 since shock hazards can develop once the internal wiring becomes loose;

- **Walmart Stores, Inc.**, of Bentonville, Arkansas, had to recall about 210,000 **General Electric Toasters** in September of 2008 after receiving **140 reports** of fires and sparks shooting out of these toasters due to electrical short circuits. Some consumers said that these incidents tripped the circuit breakers in their homes;
- **Salton Inc.**, of Lake Forest, Illinois, had to recall close to 12,000 **Electric Toasters** in March of 2008 because of serious problems with the “on” switches that can create fire hazards; and
- About 482,000 **Hamilton Beach® and Proctor-Silex® Toasters** were recalled in March of 2008 by **Hamilton Beach Brands Inc.**, of Glen Allen, Virginia, because the “on” switches can stay engaged at times, creating fire risks for consumers.

Warning Regarding the Purchase of Used Electrical Appliances

Consumers should always be extremely hesitant to purchase any “used” electrical appliances from anyone other than close friends or family members. If you’re determined to purchase this type of used item, *always* have a qualified repair person look it over for you before ever using it so you won’t be harmed by any faulty wiring or malfunctioning parts.