

DON'T TAKE BURNS LIGHTLY

72 HOURS

A critical countdown begins the minute a person sustains a burn to their skin because a burn can actually morph and deepen up to 72 hours after the initial incident.



- Don't underestimate a burn's ability to harm the body.
- Science proves a burn can actually morph and deepen after the initial incident.
- Immediate medical evaluation of a burn is critical.
- How soon the burn process is stopped and how quickly a person gets specialized medical care determines the outcome of the injury.

1ST DEGREE

- Most common type of burn.
- Also known as a superficial burn.
- It involves just the epidermis layer of the skin.



2ND DEGREE

- More extensive and involves the next layer of skin, which is the dermis.
- This includes blood capillaries, nerve endings, sweat glands and other structures.
- There are three different levels of second degree burns: superficial, intermediate and deep.



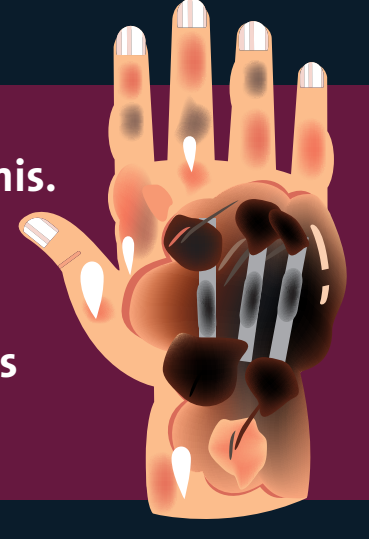
3RD DEGREE

- Involves the tissue below the dermis, which is actually fatty tissue.
- This requires surgical intervention.



4TH DEGREE

- Not a lot of people are aware of this.
- Most common in patients with electrical injuries.
- This involves the deeper structures such as muscle, tendon and bone.



To determine a degree of burn and a diagnosis, it's important to seek medical attention from a burn specialist.

—THE DO'S AND DON'TS OF BURNS—

DON'T:

- Remove burned clothing that is stuck to the body
- Use very cold water or ice on a burn
- Apply ointments, jellies, sprays or first-aid creams to severe burns
- Break open small blisters with clear fluid

DO:

- Remove clothing and jewelry that has been burned or soaked in hot fluid or chemicals
- Run tap water or room-temperature water over burn immediately
- Apply clean, dry cloth to the burned area after it is cooled and seek medical care

For more information on burns, visit www.PremierPhysicianNet.com/burnandwound.

SOURCE: Travis Perry, MD, Comprehensive Burn and Wound Specialists; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)