

Getting Warm Gone Wrong: How Bad is My Burn?

First Degree

What it means: Only the top layer of skin is affected

What it looks like: The top layer of skin is red and painful

What might cause it: Splashing a cup of hot tea



Second Degree

What it means: The first and second layers of the skin are affected

What it looks like: Skin looks wet or moist and blisters may form

What might cause it: Making contact with a hot stove burner



Third Degree

What it means: All three layers of skin are affected

What it looks like: Skin is black, white, or red with a leathery appearance

What might cause it: Being caught in a fire



SOURCE: National Institute of General Medical Sciences
