

The PROS and CONS of owning your own propane tank

Safety is Como's number-one priority and as a responsible fuel provider, we feel it is our duty to inform propane users about the pros and cons of owning their own propane tank.

PROS

1. Once you own your own tank, you are able to call on any propane provider to fill your tank. This may enable you to receive a cheaper price per gallon of propane. (Average savings of 10¢ per gallon).

CALCULATE THE REWARDS

Typical tank cost	\$1,800
Average savings/gallon	10¢
Average gallons/year	800
Average savings/year	\$80

**Average number
of years to pay back
your investment**

**22
years**

CONS

1. Each time you call a different fuel provider to fill your tank, the state fire code mandates that the propane provider perform a full inspection of your entire propane system including your tank, all piping, regulators and appliances. This is true of all propane companies and they usually charge between \$69 – \$99 for this service.

If a propane company chooses to skip this procedure they are in violation of the state fire code and are not ensuring the safety of your family.

2. Most tanks being sold to customers are used tanks. They are either old or damaged tanks that have been refurbished and normally sell for \$1,200. A brand-new tank costs about 50% more or \$1,800.
3. As a tank owner, you accept total liability for any failure in your propane system. You should inform your home insurance provider that you own your own propane tank and ask about any requirements your insurer may have in order to cover the liability you assume as a tank holder. Many insurance companies will not insure a homeowner who owns their own tank due to safety concerns.

If you were to lease your propane tank, the propane provider would be 100% responsible for any liability issue that arises from an equipment failure.

4. If you own your own propane tank, you will be responsible for the safety of your entire propane system and appliances. You will also be responsible for all tank maintenance including repairing leaks.

When the propane company owns the tank, they are responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of your propane tank and your propane system.

"It's a matter of safety, says Bob Timmons, Como's safety and operations manager. "Propane work is not a do-it-yourself kind of job. Too often we come upon situations where a customer has taken the liberty to switch out tanks or appliances and failed to secure the system. This could cause a potentially dangerous accident."

Como cautions you to seriously weigh the pros vs. the cons when deciding to purchase your own propane tank. If you have questions and would like to discuss this decision in more detail, please call your local Como office. We want to make sure you have all the facts about propane tank ownership.

If you already own your own propane tank and are thinking you made the wrong decision, call one of Como's local offices today and ask us about the possibility of us buying your tank from you!