



Burn depth assessment table

Burn depth	Wound appearance	Healing / scarring	Diagram
Superficial	Involves the epithelium » Painful » Red or pink	Complete healing within 7-10 days	Dermis Subcutaneous Tissue
Superficial partial	Epidermis and superficial (papillary) dermis destroyed » Painful » Often blistered » Pink, moist » Blanches	Heals by epithelial migration within 2 weeks » Can convert to a deeper burn	Dermis Subcutaneous Tissue
Deep partial	Involves epidermis and reticular dermis » May blister » Mottled pink or white » Fairly dry after day 2 » Discomfort rather than pain » Slow or no capillary refill	Will take more than 3 weeks to heal » Will leave scar if over 2 weeks to heal	Deep partial thickness burn Subcutaneous Tissue
Full thickness	Involves epidermis, dermis, and may include fat » Does not blanch » May be mottled,dry, translucent, black or pale in appearance » Full thickness scalds may have red non blanching appearance	Small full thickness areas may take months to heal » Will have scar if left to heal without surgery » Early excision and grafting reduce scarring and contracture	Dermis Subcutaneous Tissue

Endorsed by: Prof Fiona Wood, Director Burn Service WA Compiled by: Sharon Rowe, CNC State Adult Burns Unit - FSH

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