

Starbucks Bans Smoking Within 25 Feet of Stores Policy goes into effect June 1

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If you are a coffee-and-smokes type of person, you'll probably find hanging out at **Starbucks** a bit annoying in a few days. The Seattle-based giant will restrict smoking within 25 feet of its storefronts starting on June 1. Electronic cigarettes will also be banned at the **retailer's 7,000 U.S. locations** on that date.

While the website for a **WJXT**, an independent TV station in Jacksonville, Fla., first reported the outdoors ban, Starbucks confirmed the item with Adweek. A rep said that "smoking will be restricted within 25 feet of all stores and within company-owned outdoor seating areas."

Since smoking bans have swept the nation in the last decade, it's doubtful there will be a huge backlash for the brand. In fact, there's been **an online movement** from Starbucks consumers calling for the newly revealed policy since at least 2009.

But restricting outside smoking will certainly alienate some Starbucks customers. Although that set likely doesn't reside in New York—where citizens have gotten used to restrictions on smoking at **public parks and beaches**.

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