





## Note 2: Burn assessment

### Depth assessment

The following table provides guidance in assessing the depth of burn injury.

TABLE: CLASSIFICATION OF BURNS BASED ON DEPTH

<b>ANZBA 2004 CLASSIFICATION</b>	Epidermal	
<b>FORMER CLASSIFICATION</b>	Superficial epidermal	
<b>EXAMPLE</b>	UV light, very short flash	
<b>APPEARANCE</b>	Dry and red, blanches with pressure, no blisters	
<b>SENSATION</b>	May be painful	
<b>HEALING TIME</b>	Within seven days	
<b>SCARRING</b>	No scarring	
<b>ANZBA 2004 CLASSIFICATION</b>	Superficial dermal	
<b>FORMER CLASSIFICATION</b>	Superficial partial thickness	
<b>EXAMPLE</b>	Scald (spill or splash), short flash	
<b>APPEARANCE</b>	Pale pink with fine blistering, blanches with pressure	
<b>SENSATION</b>	Usually extremely painful	
<b>HEALING TIME</b>	Within 14 days	
<b>SCARRING</b>	Can have colour match defect Low risk of hypertrophic scarring	
<b>ANZBA 2004 CLASSIFICATION</b>	Mid dermal	
<b>FORMER CLASSIFICATION</b>	Partial thickness	
<b>EXAMPLE</b>	Scald (spill), flame, oil or grease	
<b>APPEARANCE</b>	Dark pink with large blisters Capillary refill sluggish	
<b>SENSATION</b>	May be painful	
<b>HEALING TIME</b>	14–21 days	
<b>SCARRING</b>	Moderate risk of hypertrophic scarring	
<b>ANZBA 2004 CLASSIFICATION</b>	Deep dermal	
<b>FORMER CLASSIFICATION</b>	Deep partial thickness	
<b>EXAMPLE</b>	Scald (spill), flame, oil or grease	
<b>APPEARANCE</b>	Blotchy red, may blister, no capillary refill In child, may be dark lobster red with mottling	
<b>SENSATION</b>	No sensation	
<b>HEALING TIME</b>	Over 21 days: grafting probably needed	
<b>SCARRING</b>	High risk of hypertrophic scarring	
<b>ANZBA 2004 CLASSIFICATION</b>	Full thickness	
<b>FORMER CLASSIFICATION</b>	Full thickness	
<b>EXAMPLE</b>	Scald (immersion), flame, steam, oil, grease, chemical, high-volt electricity	
<b>APPEARANCE</b>	White, waxy or charred, no blisters, no capillary refill May be dark lobster red with mottling in child	
<b>SENSATION</b>	No sensation	
<b>HEALING TIME</b>	Does not heal spontaneously, grafting needed if >1cm	
<b>SCARRING</b>	Will scar	