


Homeowner Electrical Safety Tips



Too much current will cause wires to get hot. If the cord, plug or outlet feels warm, it may be overloaded, and can be a fire hazard. When in doubt, contact an experienced electrician.

Whether you are a homeowner or a renter, electrical safety should be a top priority in your home. According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), there are nearly 400 electrocutions in the United States each year.

Approximately 15% of electrocutions are related to consumer products. Eight percent of consumer product-related electrocutions each year are attributed to electrical accidents with power drills, saws, sanders, hedge trimmers and other electric power tools. Nine percent of consumer product-related electrocutions each year are caused by accidents involving the use of lawn and garden equipment and ladders, when they come into contact with overhead power lines.

- If children are present, purchase safety covers for all unused outlets. Faceplate's should be installed where any are missing. Children can suffer shock and burn injuries if they insert objects into outlets.
- Only use outdoor cords when using cords outside.
- Move any entertainment equipment so it has room to "breathe." Blocking air flow to equipment can cause overheating and a possible fire hazard.
- Move all cords so they are out of the path of foot traffic. Damaged cords create a fire or shock hazard.
- Replace all damaged cords/equipment.

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