

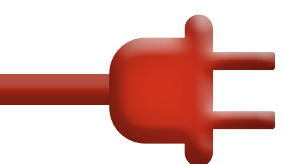


# EXTENSION CORD SAFETY

Whether on the worksite or at home, extension cords are often necessary. When used properly, they are a safe and effective tool. But if used incorrectly, or when they are damaged, extension cords can cause harm to equipment, electrical shocks, fires, burns, or worse.

## **Always Follow These Safety Tips When Using Extension Cords:**

- 1** Extension cords are for temporary use only, not a replacement for permanent wiring.
- 2** Inspect cords before use to ensure they're in good condition and not frayed, cracked, or punctured.
- 3** Never use a damaged cord or attempt to repair the cord by splicing or taping.
- 4** Do not use cords that are hot to the touch. Disconnect immediately.
- 5** Power tools and other devices with three-pronged plugs should only be used with three-pronged cords.
- 6** Tools/devices with a two-pronged polarized plug should only be used with two-pronged polarized cords.
- 7** Never bend a plug's prong to force a three-pronged plug into a two-pronged outlet.
- 8** When possible, use one long cord instead of several shorter cords connected.
- 9** If using a cord outdoors, always plug it into a GFCI outlet to eliminate shock hazards.
- 10** Keep cords untangled when in use and stored loosely coiled in a dry place.
- 11** Never disconnect a plug by pulling on the wire. Instead, grip the plug itself to pull.



**If you are unsure of the safety rules in your workplace, or where to find the proper safety equipment, talk to your supervisor.**



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