

Home Electrical Safety Checklist



Check the wattage of all bulbs to be sure they are the appropriate wattage for the size of the fixture. If you do not know the correct wattage, use a bulb no larger than 60 watts.



Check lamp, appliance, tool and extension cords to be sure they are in good condition. Shock and fire hazards can result from damaged cords. Replace frayed, broken or cracked cords.



Check to be sure that cords are not wrapped around themselves or an object of any kind. Tightly wrapped cords can lead to overheating.



Check all outlets and switches to be sure they are working properly. Be sure that all outlets are covered with a faceplate to avoid a shock hazard by exposed wiring. If children are in the house, you can avoid a shock hazard by placing safety covers in receptacle openings so that they cannot insert objects into the outlets.



Check to make sure that you don't run cords under carpet.



Check outdoor receptacles to be sure each outlet has its own waterproof cover. Moisture can get into outside receptacles and cause a malfunction, resulting in a possible shock hazard.



Check to see if countertop appliances are located too close to the kitchen sink. This can be hazardous if the appliances come in contact with water. Also keep these appliances unplugged when not in use. Unattended, plugged-in appliances create an unnecessary risk.



Check your home for overloaded receptacles. Fires can occur when overloaded wires become hot.



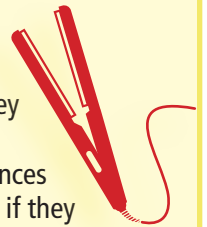
Check to make sure that you have the proper fire extinguisher for an electric fire. Never throw water on an electrical fire.



Check to make sure that the power is off when working on electrical devices.



Check small electrical appliances in the bathroom such as hair dryers, curling irons and razors to be sure they are unplugged when not in use. Even when switched off, plugged-in appliances may result in an electrocution hazard if they fall into water.



Check portable electrical heating equipment to be sure it is placed away from combustibles such as drapes and newspapers and where it cannot be tipped over. Also, be sure it bears the seal of a nationally recognized testing laboratory such as Underwriters Laboratory.



Check to see if your power tools are equipped with a three-prong plug and marked to indicate they are double insulated. These safety features reduce the risk of shock.



Check to make sure that you pull the plug, not the cord, when disconnecting an electrical device.



Check your fuse or circuit breaker if they trip. If fuses blow, circuit breakers trip, switches get hot and could result in getting shocked. Don't put off getting a reputable licensed electrician to come correct the problem.

