



Extension Cords

Extension cords are a means to temporarily supply electrical power to an appliance. Cords are designed to dissipate heat into the surrounding atmosphere. By connecting an appliance to a cord which can't handle the amount of power required by the appliance, heat develops which exceeds the cord's ability to dissipate it. Covering or hiding the cord allows heat to build up damaging the cord which can cause a fire.

Use extension cords only when necessary and only temporarily.

Replace cracked or worn extension cords with new, appropriately sized cords with the listing of a nationally recognized testing laboratory, safety closures, and other safety features.

Insert plugs fully so that no parts of the prongs are exposed when the extension cord is in use.

Noticeable warming of the plastic parts or softening of the plastic is a warning that the wires or connections are failing and the cord should be discarded and replaced.

Use only three wire extension cords for appliances with three prong plugs. Never remove the third round or U-shaped prong.

When using outdoor tools and appliances, use only extension cords labeled for outdoor use.