

# Electrical Cord Safety

- Keep power tools away from their power cords when in use
- When using extension cords, suspend the cords over aisles or work areas to eliminate tripping hazards
- Light duty extension cords should not be used with power tools and equipment. For construction, cords rated for hard or extra hard usage are needed.
- Electrical tools should not be carried or pulled by the power cord
- Tying power cords in knots can cause short circuits and shocks — loop the cords or use a twist lock plug
- Keep power cords away from heat, water and oil
- Vehicles should not be permitted to pass over unprotected extension cords
- Place them in conduit
- Place planks alongside the cords to protect them
- Inspect cords and plugs
- Check power cords and plugs daily
- Remove any worn or damaged cords from service
- A cord that feels more than comfortably warm should be removed from service
- Replace broken three-prong plugs and make sure the third prong is properly grounded
- Eliminate octopus connections
- Several power cords should not be plugged into one plug
- Pull the plug, not the cord — pulling the cord causes wear and may result in a shock
- Extension cords:
  - Should not be used as permanent wiring
  - Should be used only to supply power to locations without a power outlet



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