



Point Home Electrical Safety Checklist



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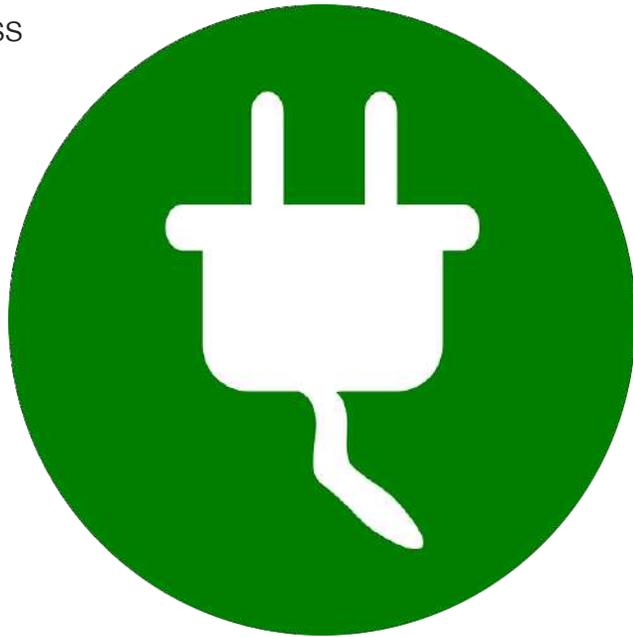
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1. CORDS

Examine your line cords. Cracked and frayed cords are easy to miss because they are often hidden from view. Be vigilant in checking that they are always in good condition.

Cords should not be placed in areas with high foot traffic, and should be free of any coverings, such as carpets, rugs and furniture. Make sure the cord is not nailed or stapled to a wall.

Extension cords are also often overlooked, but there is a possibility they will overload. To be safe, use extension cords only on a temporary basis.

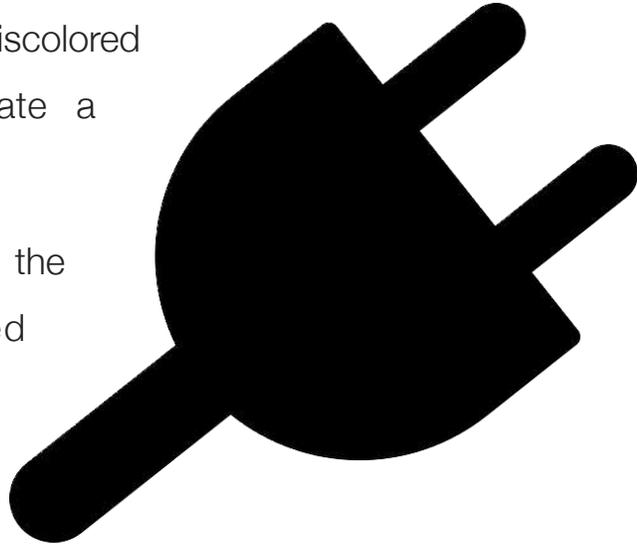


2. OUTLETS

Never overload outlets with too many appliances or outlet splitters.

Check outlets to ensure that they don't become hot to the touch or discolored over time, as this can indicate a potentially dangerous overload.

If there are small children in the household, cover all unused outlets with a protective cover to safeguard against shocks.



3. PLUGS

Inspect your plugs.

Do not force a plug into an outlet if it does not fit. Plugs should fit securely.

Never remove a ground pin or third prong from a three-prong plug so that it can fit into a two-conductor outlet. This could cause electrical shock.

As another precaution against shock, make sure all plugged-in appliances are not in areas where they might make contact with water.



4. SURGE PROTECTORS

Use a surge protector for all computers, modems and other electrical appliances. Make sure it has a seal from Underwriters Laboratories, the largest and most recognized independent, not-for-profit testing laboratory in the world.



A product with a UL seal ensures the product meets the laboratory's quality and reliability standards.

To identify the seal, look for the UL symbol, consisting of the letters U and L inside a circle, and the word "Listed" along with a control number.

5. CIRCUIT BREAKERS & FUSES

Fuses and circuit breakers are essential to the safety of an electrical system. If a circuit becomes overloaded, the fuse will blow, preventing a dangerous buildup of electricity. When fuses do blow, be sure to replace them with the same type of fuse that is rated for the same ampere load.



If you replace a home fuse box, install an S-type fuse box that will only allow the correct fuse to be installed, preventing any accidental use of the wrong type of fuses

Make sure circuit breakers and fuses are the correct sizes. Ask an electrician to tell you the correct sizes for your circuit breakers and fuses.

As a precaution against fire, make sure everyone in your home knows where the main breaker is and how to shut off the power in your home.

6. SERVICE PANELS

Service panels must be properly labeled, and all conductors should be protected against over current problems with appropriately sized breakers.



7. LIGHTING

Be sure to replace light bulbs with new bulbs of the same wattage. In addition, ensure that new light bulbs are always screwed in firmly, as a loose bulb can overheat and pose a fire danger.

Keep all lamps and other lighting fixtures away from curtains or beds where flammable fabric can come into contact with the bulb.



8. APPLIANCES

Read the owners manual before using any small appliances, including hair dryers, irons, power tools and portable space heaters.

Make sure that the ampere requirements do not exceed the capacity of the circuit.

Unplug appliances whenever they're not in use and seek professional repair to any damage to appliance cords.

Check out our appliance reviews [here](#).



WHEN TO CALL AN ELECTRICIAN

Electricity is a vital element in everyday life and proper precautions are needed to prevent damage. In addition, if there are any electrical malfunctions, a qualified electrician is the best person to fix the issue.

Please don't begin poking around in the fuse box rewiring the house for power, be safe and [call Forbes Electrical Company](#) for all your electrical needs.



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