



Valued Home Inspectors Inc.

Patrick M. Corbett

Home Inspection Services



EXTENSION CORDS AND THEIR USE:

Using extension cords

- Never remove an extension cord's grounding pin to fit into a two-prong outlet.
- Avoid powering multiple appliances with one cord.
- Don't plug multiple cords together.
- Don't run extension cords under rugs, furniture, walls, ceilings, floors... Fire Hazard
- Never tape extension cords to floors or attach them to surfaces with staples or nails.
- Don't bend or coil cords when they're in use.
- Cover unused cord receptacles with childproof covers.
- Stop using ext cords hot to the touch - Are Cut - Damaged or Has Exposed Wiring
- They have limited "Current Carrying Capacity"... (Do not Over-Load) Over-Heat
- Remove any connected permanently inside electric panels
- Do not overload ext cords or allow them to run through water or snow on the ground.
- Do not substitute ext cords for permanent wiring. Meant for "Short Term Use"
- A heavy reliance on extension cords is an indication that you have too few outlets to address your needs. Have additional outlets installed where you need them.
- Make sure the extension cord or temporary power strip you use is rated for the products to be plugged in, and is marked for either indoor or outdoor use.
- The appliance or tool that you are using the cord with will have a wattage rating on it. Match this up with your extension cord, and do not use a cord that has a lower rating.
- Use extension cords with polarized and/or three-prong plugs.
- Buy only cords approved by an independent testing laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL), Intertek (ETL) or Canadian Standards Association (CSA).

Extension Cord Designations

- S: Designed for general Use
- W: Rated for Outdoor Use
- J: Standard 300 Voltage Insulation
- T: made from Vinyl Thermoplastic
- P: Parallel Wire Construction (Air Conditioner Cords and Household Extension Cords)
- O: Oil-Resistant
- E: Made from TPE

Code Length and Amperage Limits

- 25 - 50 Feet Extension Cords
16 Awg (1-13 Amp) 14Awg (14-15 Amp)
12-10Awg (16-20 Amp)
- 100 Feet Extension Cords
16 Awg (1-10 Amp) 14Awg (11-13 amp)
12Awg (14-15amp) 10Awg (16-20amp)
- 150 Feet Extension Cords
14 Gauge (1-7 Amps) 12Awg (8-10 Amp)
10Awg (11-15 Amp)

**Alarms are for emergencies.
Perspective is for home inspection.**



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Protecting Peace of Mind

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