

Electrical System

Fuse or circuit breaker

The fundamental safety problem with electricity is the overloading of wires, extension cords, circuits or fuses. Hazards are best left to licensed electrical professionals with special knowledge and training.

- Make sure combined amperage of appliances does not exceed capacity of circuit breaker or fuse.
- Inspect and test the breaker panel periodically.
- If a tripping condition persists or if there is discoloration or overheating, call a licensed electrician.
- Immediately turn off all appliances, Curling Iron, Hot Rollers when not in use.
- Make sure kitchen and bathroom outlets are all GFC interrupters.

Misuse, overuse of extension cords; faulty or damaged extension or power cords.

- Reposition appliances to minimize the need for extension cords.
- Only use properly rated extension cords.
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- Only use properly rated UL extension cords.
- If a cord is hot to touch, unplug it immediately.
- Never run an extension cord under a rug.
- Never use an extension cord or appliance whose cord is worn frayed or damaged.
- Do not cut or splice cords for any reason or use when they get hot.

Portable Electric Space Heater, Wood Stoves & Fireplaces

- Move the heater a safe distance (minimum 3 feet) from upholstered furniture, drapes, curtains, bedding or other combustible materials.
- Check all cords on space heaters for fraying, cracked or heats up.
- Never use an extension cord with a space heater.
- Turn off all heater when leaving house or leaving the room.
- Make sure the unit is UL approved and has a temperature control.
- If the manufacturer warns against using extension cords, remove the cord.
- Turn off and unplug heater before going to bed or leaving the house.
- Have the space heater, fireplace, wood burning stoves, gas and electric fireplaces inspected one year.
- Keep firewood stacked at least ten feet from the house outside.
- Burn dry, well seasoned wood and do not brush ashes.
- Always use a fire place screen when fire is lit.

NOTE: The leading cause of kerosene fires is refueling. Always refuel outdoors away from the house and never in the garage or home.