

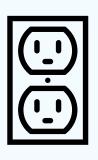
ELECTRICAL SAFETY

The electrical current in a regular business or home has enough power to cause death by electrocution. The four most common injuries that occur include electrocution, electric shock, burns and falls.



INSPECTION

- Inspect tools, power cords, and electrical fittings for damage or wear prior to each use. Repair or replace damaged equipment immediately.
- Check power cords and plugs daily. Discard if worn or damaged.
- Any cord that feels more than comfortably warm should be checked by an electrician.



OUTLETS

- Do not plug several power cords into one outlet.
- Do not disconnect power supply by pulling or jerking the cord from the outlet. Pulling the cord causes wear and may cause a shock.
- Replace broken three prong plugs and make sure the third prong is properly grounded.



ELECTRICAL SHOCK

- Risk of electric shock is greater in areas that are wet or damp. Install Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCIs) as they will interrupt the electrical circuit before a current sufficient to cause death or serious injury occurs.
- Do not touch a person or electrical apparatus in the event of an electrical accident. Always disconnect the current first.



Electrical Cords

- Always tape cords to walls or floors when necessary. Nails and staples can damage cords causing fire and shock hazards.
- Use cords or equipment that is rated for the level of amperage or wattage that you are using
- Pull the plug, not the cord.



FUSE & BREAKERS

- Always use the correct size fuse. Replacing a fuse with one of a larger size can cause excessive currents in the wiring and possibly start a fire.
- Label all circuit breakers and fuse boxes clearly.
- Do not block access to circuit breakers or fuse boxes.



ELECTRICAL INJURIES

- Direct contact with the electrical energy. When electricity travels through our bodies, it can interfere with the normal electrical signals between the brain and muscles.
- Indirect contact with the electrical energy. When electricity arcs through a gas, such as air, to a person who is grounded.
- Thermal burns include flash burns from heat generated by an electric arc and flame burns from materials that catch on fire from heating or ignition by electrical currents.
- Muscle contractions, or a startle reaction can cause a person to fall from a ladder, scaffold or aerial bucket. The fall can cause serious injuries or even death.