

Electrical Safety

Just the facts:

According to the NFPA

- On average, there are 36,400 home fires per year associated with wiring, switches, outlets, cords and plugs, fuse and circuit breaker boxes, and other equipment involved in distributing electricity around the home. These electrical service equipment fires annually kill 352 people and injure 1,343 annually.
- Fixed wiring causes 1/3 of home electrical distribution fires.
- Cords and plugs cause 1/6 of home electrical distribution fires and 1/3 of related deaths. In many cases, people can easily check and fix them, if necessary, without a licensed electrician.
- Each year, electrical shock (not resulting in a fire) causes hundreds of burn deaths and thousands of burn injuries.
- Nearly 2/3 of electrical burn injuries among children ages 12 and under, are associated with household electrical cords and extension cords.



Electrical Safety Tips:

GFCIs: (ground fault circuit interrupters) can reduce the risk of shock by shutting off faulty electrical circuits and equipment faster than conventional fuses or circuit breakers can. GFCIs are inexpensive; professional electricians can hard-wire them into your home electrical systems.

Push Back: In the kitchen, push back cords for countertop appliances to keep young children from pulling them off the counter.