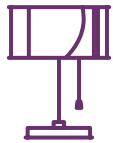


Check All the Boxes When It Comes to Electrical Safety



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Follow these helpful tips to stay safe around electricity throughout the year.



Indoor Electrical Safety

- **Circuit Breakers**
 - If there is an interruption, carefully check the equipment to see what caused it
 - Make sure your hands and the floor you're standing on are dry
 - Push the breaker switch to the full OFF position, then back to ON
- **Wiring**
 - Consider upgrading your electrical system if your current wiring is outdated or faulty
 - Make sure you're using ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) breakers for outdoor circuits and indoor circuits around water
 - Double-check the wiring in your home to see if it complies with the National Electrical Code
- **Electric Cords**
 - Protect cords from damage by not twisting, kinking, or crushing the cord
 - Keep cords away from heat and water
 - Do not string a series of extension cords together



Outdoor Electrical Safety

- **Power Tools**
 - Read the tool's instructions, especially all safety warnings, before use
 - Plug the cord into a three-prong outlet on a three-conductor circuit
 - Inspect the tool after each use, keeping it clean and storing it in a dry place
- **Outdoor Lighting**
 - Take special care to prevent potential injuries when working outside and it's wet
 - Make sure all outdoor outlets, lighting fixtures and bulbs are weatherproof or protected by GFCI breakers
 - Turn off outdoor circuits before replacing bulbs or adjusting outdoor lighting
- **Overhead Power Lines**
 - When using a ladder, be sure to keep it far from power lines
 - Never let children fly kites, motorized airplanes or drones near power lines



Space Heater Safety

- **What To Do**
 - Only use equipment that's made for home heating
 - Use space heaters that are up to the latest safety standards
 - Place space heaters on a level, hard, nonflammable surface
 - Turn the heater off when you leave the area
- **What Not To Do**
 - Never leave a space heater on when you go to sleep
 - Don't place a space heater close to any sleeping person
 - Never use gasoline in a kerosene space heater, as even small amounts of gasoline mixed with kerosene can increase the risk of fire



Safe Holiday Decorating

- **What To Do**
 - Double check lights for frayed wires or cracks, and be sure there is a bulb in each socket
 - Use heavy-duty extension cords, and only use cords outdoors if they are designated for outdoor use
 - Outdoor lights and inflatable decorations should be plugged into circuits protected GFCI breakers
 - Use a timer or turn off lights before going to bed, or if you will be away from home
- **What Not To Do**
 - Don't use portable propane space heaters indoors or in any confined space unless they are specifically designed for indoor use
 - Do not hammer tacks or nails into the electrical cord when hanging lights—instead, use clips to safely attach lights to the house