

# Home Electrical Safety Checklist

## General Safety

- Ensure all electrical outlets and switches are not warm or hot to the touch
- Check that all visible cords and plugs are intact and not frayed or damaged.
- Make sure all power cords are clear of walkways and not trapped under furniture.
- Test smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, and replace batteries if necessary.

## Outlets and Power Cords

- Confirm that outlets are not overloaded with multiple adapters or power strips
- Look for any discolored or scorched outlets and switches.
- Gently wiggle plug cords in outlets to check for loose-fitting plugs.
- Ensure there are safety covers on unused outlets, especially if children are present.

## Lighting

- Verify that lightbulbs are the correct wattage for their fixtures.
- Replace any flickering or consistently non-working bulbs.
- Check for secure fit of lamps and light fixtures.

## Extension Cords and Power Strips

- Use extension cords for temporary purposes only, not as a permanent solution.
- Check that power strips have surge protection for valuable electronics.
- Ensure extension cords are not running across doorways or under carpets.

## Circuit Breakers

- Familiarize yourself with the main electrical panel (circuit breaker box).
- Know how to turn off power in case of an emergency.

## Appliances

- Ensure major appliances (refrigerator, stove, washer, etc.) are plugged directly into wall outlets, not extension cords.
- Keep appliance vents clear of dust and debris for proper airflow.

## Outdoor Safety

- Check for outdoor outlets to ensure they have weatherproof covers.
- Ensure outdoor lights and electrical equipment are weather-rated and secure.

## Additional Safety Tips

Keep water away from electrical devices, especially in bathrooms and kitchens.  
Know the signs of electrical problems: burning smells, unusual noises, and constant flickering of lights.

## REMEMBER

For any electrical concerns or repairs beyond basic observations, contact a professional electrician.  
Regularly scheduled inspections by a certified home inspector can help identify potential electrical issues before they become major problems..