



Electrical Cords and Temporary Wiring – Fire Prevention Checklist

Electrical cords and temporary wiring account for thousands of electrical system fires that occur each year. These fires can be prevented by limiting the use of electrical cords and temporary wiring and by regular inspection and proper maintenance when they are used. The following should be considered when reviewing fire safety related to electrical cords and temporary wiring:

Extension Cords	Yes	No	N/A
Is the use of extension cords, as a substitute for fixed building wiring, prohibited?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are extension cords inspected for broken connectors, damaged insulation, and missing hardware before each use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the routing of extension cords, through walls, over beams, around corners, or through doorways prohibited?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are extension cords approved/listed for the environment present and loads expected?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are extension cords in wet areas equipped with ground fault interruption (GFI) devices	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are employees directed not to use an extension cord while it is coiled or wrapped tightly around itself?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the splicing of damaged extension cords prohibited?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Equipment Power Cords			
Are power cords on equipment limited to a maximum length of 3 ft (0.9 m)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the splicing of equipment cords, to repair damage or to extend its original length, prohibited?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are equipment cords inspected for damage, including the condition of any strain relief devices, before each use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the use of equipment cords without a ground connection, unless it is listed as “double-insulated”, prohibited?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Temporary Wiring			
Is temporary wiring used only when needed, such as for maintenance, repair, or demolition activities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the use of temporary wiring limited to holiday displays, special occasions, and ornamental lighting limited to no more than 90 days?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
When used, is temporary wiring located at least 7 ft (2.1 m) above any walking or working surface and not routed through doors, floors, or walls?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are only grounding-type receptacles used to provide power to temporary wiring?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



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CH-25-23 7/24/12

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