

10 HOME ELECTRICAL SAFETY TIPS

Electrical system components can wear out over time, just like your roof or furnace, but good electrical safety practices can help keep your home safe.

Rule 1: All electrical work should be performed by a licensed electrician in accordance with local and national codes.

Rule 2: Use ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI)-protected outlets in areas where electricity is near a water source, like in the kitchen and bathroom.

Rule 3: Routinely check cords, outlets, switches and appliances for signs of damage. Do not use damaged electrical devices.

Rule 4: Do not overload outlets with too many devices or appliances.

Rule 5: Never run electrical cords under rugs or carpets.

Rule 6: Make sure all electrical panel circuits are properly labeled. Always replaces fuses or circuit breakers with the correct size and amperage.

Rule 7: Every month, use the TEST buttons to check that GFCIs and smoke alarms are working properly.

Rule 8: Do not use extension cords on a permanent basis, and never use them with major appliances.

Rule 9: Do not pinch cords under furniture or in windows or doors.

Rule 10: Always use light bulbs that match the recommended wattage on the lamp or fixture.

For more information, please visit [Electrical Safety Foundation International](#)