

## Extension Cords

Improper use of extension cords and old, worn damaged cords are frequent causes of serious fires and fire deaths.

**YOU SHOULD NEVER USE AN EXTENSION CORD TO POWER AN ELECTRIC SPACE HEATER!!**

Electrical appliances that generate heat or utilize a motor, such as a space heater, an air conditioner or a refrigerator are designed to be plugged directly into an electrical outlet. If you use an extension cord for a light or other small appliances, consider the electrical extension cord as a temporary solution. While in use:

- Check the extension cord frequently for problems such as heating, fraying, exposed wires, or loose plugs.
- Use only three wire extension cords for appliances with three-prong plugs.
- Don't coil or pinch the extension cord in any way.
- Don't attach the extension cord to a wall or baseboard with staples or nails.
- Don't place extension cords under rugs or where they may be crushed by furniture.
- Look for extension cords with self-closing outlets to cover unused receptacles, or with a single outlet if that is all that is required.

Eliminate the need for extension cords in your home. Have a licensed electrician install a sufficient number of electrical outlets, with the proper wiring and circuit protection, to meet your family's electrical needs.