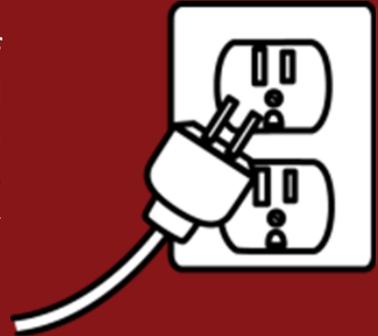


# ELECTRICAL SAFETY

In Baltimore City, electrical problems are a leading cause of house fires that result in death. Electricity is important and makes our lives easier. But, it can also be dangerous if used in the wrong way. Electricity can burn your skin. It can cause a fire in your home. Keep reading to learn about how to make your home safer from electrical fires.



## Electrical Fire Risks

1. **Frayed or damaged cords** can get hot and start a fire. Do not use these cords.



2. Avoid **overloading outlets**. Too many items plugged into one outlet can cause a fire.



3. **Extension cords** are for short term projects only. Long term use of extension cords may cause them to overheat and start a fire.
4. The **electrical supply** of older homes was not designed for all the electrical items we use today. You may need to update your electrical supply if you notice any of the following:
  - blowing fuses
  - tripping circuit breakers
  - warm or discolored outlets
  - burning smell or odor of rubber
  - flickering lights
  - sparks from an outlet



**Get help from an electrician or landlord at the first sign of trouble.**



UL LISTED means that UL has tested samples of the product and determined that it meets UL's standards for safety. Other UL Marks use the terms CLASSIFIED and CERTIFIED. Never buy products that say "UL Approved" or "Tested to UL Standards."

## How to Make Your Home Safer

### General:

- Place lamps and bulbs away from flammable objects such as curtains, clothes, bedding and other fabrics.
- Cover outlets not in use with safety plugs.
- Make sure that all outlets and switches have faceplates.
- Never run a cord across a doorway or under carpet.

### Appliance:

- Only use appliances that have a UL Listed label.
- Never use or place electrical appliances near water.
- If an appliance has a three-prong plug, use it only in a three-slot outlet.
- Unplug appliances before repairing them.
- Items like stoves, microwaves, and dryers should be plugged directly into wall outlets.

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