

Red River Mutual




LOSS PREVENTION PROGRAM

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# HOME ELECTRICAL SAFETY





People often underestimate hazards related to electricity. Use these tips to avoid possible electrical shock and home fires.

### **OUTLETS**

Install safety covers on unused outlets accessible to children. Replace missing or damaged wall plates and make sure plugs fit securely.

### **PLUGS**

Never force a plug into an outlet if it doesn't fit. Avoid overloading outlets with too many appliances

### **CORDS**

Inspect cords regularly to make sure they are not frayed or damaged. Never nail or staple cords to the wall or any other object. Don't run cords under carpets or rest furniture on them. Only use extension cords on a temporary basis and make sure they aren't overloaded. Never use an indoor extension cord for outdoor use or vice versa.

### **LIGHT BULBS**

Use the correct bulb wattage for the size of the fixture. Make sure bulbs are screwed in tight to avoid overheating.

### **APPLIANCES**

Check for cracks or damage in wiring, plugs and connectors. Appliances that repeatedly blow a fuse, trip a circuit breaker or give you a shock need to be unplugged and repaired before further use.

### **SPACE HEATERS**

Space heaters are meant to provide temporary heat only. Keep heaters at least 1 metre away from materials such as bedding, clothes and drapes. Never use an extension cord. Do not leave children unsupervised around space heaters.

### **HALOGEN FLOOR LAMPS**

Halogen lamps run much hotter than incandescent lights so place lamps away from drapes or clothing. Turn off the lamp if out of the room for longer periods. Avoid using halogen lamps in children's rooms.

### **WATER AND ELECTRICITY**

Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCI's) should be used in any area where water and electricity may come into contact. Never reach to grab an appliance that has fallen into water. Turn off the power source first then unplug the appliance. Don't use an appliance that has gotten wet until it has been inspected by a qualified repair service.

### **LIGHTENING**

Do not use appliances or take a bath or shower during an electrical storm.