



# Electrical Safety Check List

- Call a qualified electrician if:**
  - Frequent problems with blowing fuses or tripping circuit breakers.
  - A tingling feeling when you touch an electrical appliance.
  - Discolored or warm wall outlets.
  - A burning or rubbery smell coming from an appliance.
  - Flickering or dimming lights.
  - Sparks from an outlet.
- Inspect your home** for hidden electrical hazards.
- Check electrical cords** to make sure the wires are not damaged, cracked or loose. If the cords need to be repaired, take the item to a professional repair shop, hire an electrician or replace with a new item.
- Make sure cords are not running across doorways or under carpets.** If they are, have a qualified electrician install more outlets.
- Keep children away from electric cords and outlets.** Cords placed in the mouth can cause a burn and objects placed in a receptacle can cause a shock, burns or electrocution.
- Make sure that all receptacle outlets and switches have faceplates.**
- Never put more than one plug in each receptacle.** An outlet may have one or more receptacles — one to receive each plug.
- Be sure that the bulbs in your lights match what is safe for the lamp.** There should be a sticker that indicates the maximum wattage for the light bulb — such as use maximum of a 60 watt bulb.
- Light bulbs in the living area of your home, including closets, should have a shade or globe for protection.** Light bulbs can get very hot and cause a fire if something that can burn is too close.
- Ground-fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) reduce the risk of shock by shutting off an electrical circuit when the circuit could be a shock hazard.** Your home should have GFCIs in the kitchen, bathroom(s), laundry, basement, garage, and outdoor areas.
- Heat producing appliances such as a toaster, coffee maker, iron or microwave oven draw a lot of electricity.** Plug only one heat producing appliance in each outlet to prevent wiring from overheating.
- Buy only appliances that have the label of a recognized testing laboratory.**
- Arc-fault circuit interrupters (AFCIs) protect against fire by monitoring the electrical current in a circuit and shutting off the circuit when unintended arcing occurs.** AFCIs should be installed in your home. If not, have a professional electrician install them for you.
- Keep ladders away from overhead power lines, including the electrical service into your home.**

Think **Green!** Turn off lights when you are not in the room. Unplug appliances when not in use.