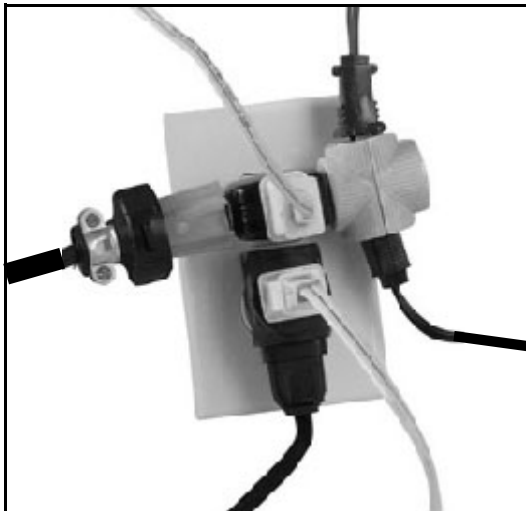


# The Facts About Electrical Safety



Avoid overloading a circuit with “octopus outlets”. If additional outlets or circuits are required, have them installed by a licensed electrician.



Air conditioners and other heavy appliances should be plugged directly into an outlet. If this is not possible, use a 14 gauge three-wire, grounding-type appliance extension cord.

Click on [www.ofm.gov.on.ca](http://www.ofm.gov.on.ca) for more fire safety information.



# Key Messages:

- ✓ Check cords for damage such as fraying or nicks. A damaged cord can expose wires and result in a potential shock or fire hazard.
- ✓ Avoid running cords under rugs, which can damage the cord and cause a fire.
- ✓ Extension cords should be used only as a temporary connection. If permanent wiring is required, have additional outlets installed by a licensed electrician. Extension cords should not be linked together—instead, use an extension cord that is long enough to do the job.
- ✓ Air conditioners and other heavy appliances should be plugged directly into an outlet. If that is not possible, use a 14 gauge, three-wire grounding-type appliance extension cord.
- ✓ Avoid overloading a circuit with “octopus outlets”. If additional outlets or circuits are required, have them installed by a licensed electrician.
- ✓ All outlets near water should be ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs). A GFCI provides split-second electrical protection.
- ✓ When replacing a fuse, make sure it is of the right amperage. Substituting a higher amp fuse where a smaller one is required can pose a fire hazard.



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**Fact**

**A cord or plug that becomes hot is an indication of an overloaded circuit.**

