

 *Hanover Risk Solutions*

# Electrical Cords and Temporary Wiring–Fire Prevention Checklist

Electrical cords and temporary wiring account for thousands of electrical system fires that occur each year. These fires can be prevented by limiting the use of electrical cords and temporary wiring and by regular inspection and proper maintenance when they are used. The following should be considered when reviewing fire safety related to electrical cords and temporary wiring:

## Extension Cords

	YES	NO	N/A
Is the use of extension cords as a substitute for fixed building wiring prohibited?			
Are extension cords inspected for broken connectors, damaged insulation, and missing hardware before each use?			
Is the routing of extension cords through walls, over beams, around corners, or through doorways prohibited?			
Are extension cords approved/listed for the environment present and loads expected?			
Are extension cords in wet areas equipped with ground fault interruption (GFI) devices?			
Are employees directed not to use an extension cord while it is coiled or wrapped tightly around itself?			
Is the splicing of damaged extension cords prohibited?			

## Equipment Power Cords

	YES	NO	N/A
Are power cords on equipment limited to a maximum length of 3 ft. (0.9 m)?			
Is the splicing of equipment cords, to repair damage or to extend its original length, prohibited?			
Are equipment cords inspected for damage, including the condition of any strain relief devices, before each use?			
Is the use of equipment cords without a ground connection, unless it is listed as “double-insulated,” prohibited?			

## Temporary Wiring

	YES	NO	N/A
Is temporary wiring used only when needed, such as for maintenance, repair, or demolition activities?			
Is the use of temporary wiring limited to holiday displays, special occasions, and ornamental lighting limited to no more than 90 days?			
When used, is temporary wiring located at least 7 ft. (2.1 m) above any walking or working surface and not routed through doors, floors, or walls?			
Are only grounding-type receptacles used to provide power to temporary wiring?			

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