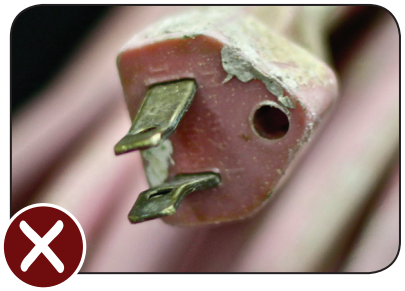
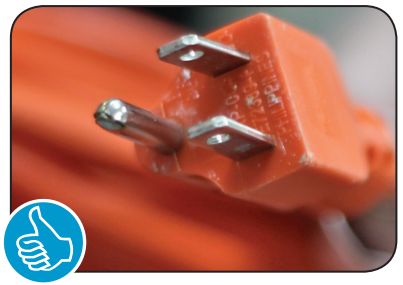
Disclaimer: This material was produced under grant number SH20838SH0 from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor. It does not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the U. S. Department of Labor, nor does mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the U. S. Government. The U.S. Government does not warrant or assume any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any information, apparatus, product, or process disclosed.

How can you be safe with cords?

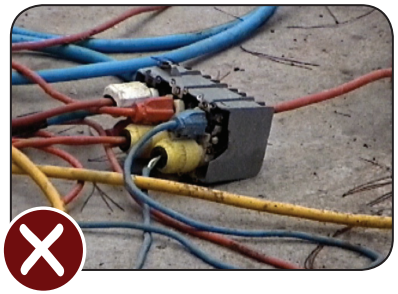
- Look over each cord carefully before using it. If a cord is damaged, or if it is missing its grounding pin, mark it clearly so that nobody uses it.



- Only use equipment with a cord that has three prongs and double insulation.



- Never use adapters, multi-plugs, or surge protectors in construction sites (instead of these, use GFCI).



"Electrical safety is not just for electricians. All workers should understand the dangers of working near electricity."

—SERGIO JUÁREZ

ELECTRICITY

PROTECT YOURSELF FROM ELECTRICAL HAZARDS

Water is a good conductor of electricity. Never use equipment while standing in water nor pass a cord through standing water.

HEALTH AND SAFETY TRAINING IN CONSTRUCTION
WORKERS DEFENSE PROJECT / PROYECTO DEFENSA LABORAL

ELECTRICAL HAZARDS

Is electricity dangerous? ...Yes!

- Contact with electricity is a great risk in construction sites.

- The most common cause of death related to electricity in the workplace is the incorrect use of extension cords, or a damaged extension cords.

- Workers at high stations that make contact with electricity can fall, which can result in grave injury or even death.

What are the most common electrical hazards on construction sites?

- Faulty grounding
- Exposed electrical equipment
- Inadequate electrical installation
- Overhead power lines
- Overcharged circuits
- Wet conditions
- Damaged tools or equipment

And what about overhead power lines?

- Inspect construction sites for overhead power lines before beginning to work.
- Maintain at least 10 feet (over 3 meters) of distance between all equipment and overhead power lines.

Electricity is a common part of all of our lives, but sometimes because it's so common, we don't treat it with the necessary precautions.

Electrical cables should always be examined before using the equipment to ensure that it has not been damaged or modified.