



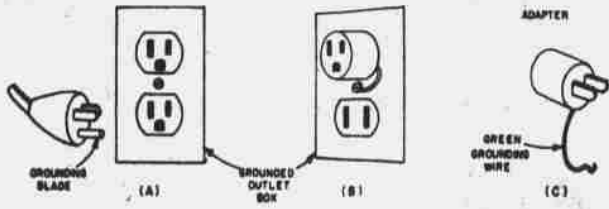
Sights On Safety

by UL Public Information Office

Safe Use Of Electrical Extension Cords

Electrical extension cords are necessary accessories to the convenient and efficient use of electricity. However, the use of damaged cords, and the unsafe application of these cords in and around the home, often produces disastrous results. In the interest of acquainting you with the methods of detecting inferior and hazardous products, and to insure the safe usage of your extension cords, Underwriters Laboratories offers the following suggestions:

- Be sure that the extension cord is of the right type for the application. Extension cords used outdoors should be marked "For Outdoor Use." In garages, workshops, and similar areas, extension cords should be of a heavy duty type. "Heavy duty" cord provides a thick insulation around the wires, making them particularly resistant to mechanical damage. For indoor applications, supplying lamps, radio or television receivers and the like — extension cords employing ordinary lamp cord are satisfactory.
- Never run the cord under a rug or in other locations where it will be walked upon, or where it will become entangled with toys or furniture. Also, extension cords should not be run through doorway or window openings. The closing of the window or door would "pinch" the cord, possibly short-circuiting the wires.
- Extension cords are not a replacement for the permanent wiring in the home, and they should not be permanently fastened in place with nails, screws, or tacks. These fastening devices may damage the insulation and short-circuit the conductors, thereby causing a fire. Use extension cords for temporary convenience only.
- If the extension cord has a 3-prong grounding plug, then it must be used in a 3-hole grounded receptacle ("A" in diagram). If only a 2-hole receptacle is available ("B"), use an adapter with a green grounding pigtail ("C"), which should be fastened to the screw holding the receptacle face plate. Caution! You must be sure that the receptacle is actually grounded when using this adapter. A qualified electrician can determine this. Never cut off the round grounding pin on a 3-prong grounding plug so it will fit a 2-hole receptacle. You will be removing a major safeguard against dangerous electric shock, should some trouble develop within the connected piece of electrical equipment.
- The current-carrying capacity of the extension cord should equal or exceed the current drawn by the equipment which it serves. If more than



one appliance or lamp is connected to the extension cord, the individual ratings of the appliances should be added together and the sum of the ratings then checked against the rating of the cord. Ratings for appliances are usually found on the name plate.

● Never disconnect an appliance or an extension cord from its supply receptacle by pulling on the cord. Always plug directly on the plug.

● The plugs of appliances and extension cords should be fully inserted into the receptacle, and any unused outlets in the extension cord should be adequately covered or closed by the device provided for that purpose. To prevent a poor or partially exposed connection at the supply receptacle, always insert the prongs of the plug completely into the receptacle. The extension cord should be fully extended before it is plugged in. This precaution is intended to prevent overheating.

● Always disconnect the extension cord when the circuit is not in use.

● Make sure that all extension cords bear the label of Underwriters Laboratories — a safety organization with almost eighty

years of experience in testing electrical products with regard to public safety.

Garden Time

Mower Convenient Tool But Can Cause Trouble

By M. E. Gardner
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It is time to quote another timely poem by Albert Mason, the Poet Laureate of Orleans County, N. Y.; and remind you about some safety rules when using --

POWER MOWERS

Now why should power mowers kick just when you least expect it? That starter rope looped round your thumb can beautifully dissect it. Sometimes they fly back like a mule, and loosen up your tartar; it almost seems misleading when they call that thing a starter. I asked my wife to mow the lawn, and then did not remind her; when she leaned down and yanked the rope, it took two hours to find her.

In spite of all its vagaries and tricks that frighten mother, I still prefer that motor purr To push and grunt, oh brother!

Your power mower is a necessary and convenient piece of equipment for maintaining an attractive lawn but it can cause plenty of trouble if not properly used. Shoo the pets and children from the lawn area when you decide to give it a hair cut.

Take a look around for sticks, stones, toys, wire and other loose objects that could become deadly missiles if they strike the whirling blade of the mower.

Keep the mower in good running condition by proper maintenance at all times. A blade that is out of balance will cause severe vibrations and increase maintenance

costs. Adjust the speed of the mower blade only fast enough to give a clean cut. Extremely high blade speeds are dangerous. Change oil after about 20 hours of mower use. An oil change is just as important for your mower as for your car, and it is the best insurance against motor wear.

Do not fill the gas tank while the engine is hot. A full tank at the beginning of mowing operations will usually take care of the average lawn.

If mower becomes clogged, stop the engine and disconnect the spark plug wire before attempting to do any work underside. Don't mow grass when wet from rain or heavy dew.

Keep the wheels adjusted. When they become wobbly, it will take more energy to push the mower. A drop or two of oil on the axles will help, too.

THE FIZZLE FAMILY



THE FIZZLE FAMILY



SALLY SNICKERS

