



Benicia Fire Department – Fire Prevention Policies

Subject: USE OF EXTENSION CORDS

Section: Policies

Effective Date: April 2, 2009

Policy B

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Revised Date: July 1, 2015

The use of extension cords shall meet the requirements as set in CFC Chapter 6, the CBC, and the National Electrical Code (NEC).

Extension cords may be used and are permitted for use on portable appliances and approved fixtures under the following conditions:

- a. Cords may not be used in place of permanent wiring (CFC Section 605.5)
- b. Cords shall be plugged directly into approved receptacles.
- c. The cord shall only serve one appliance or fixture.
- d. The cords must be U.L. listed with only one male and one female end.
 - Exception – approved multi-plug adapters
- e. The cord must be in and kept in good, undamaged condition without splices, or deterioration.
- f. The maximum length of the cord will be ten (10) feet.
- g. The cord must be three pronged – groundable type.

An approved multi-plug adaptor is a U.L. listed adaptor protected by an internal fifteen (15) amp breaker.

The multi-plug adaptor should not have extension cords running from it.

Always use your judgment on the use of extension cords or multi-plug adapters. If you don't believe it is a safe application, deny the use.