

ContainerPower Energy Solutions

Is it safe to use outdoor power supply



Overview

Do I need a GFCI outlet if I run power outside?

When running power outside, a GFCI-equipped outlet ensures safety, and is required by code in all areas exposed to moisture, like the outdoors. When adding an outdoor outlet, be sure to choose an outdoor-rated, weatherproof model with built-in, high-sensitivity GFCI.

Should you use a power strip or extension cord?

If you go the extension cord route for those type of devices, you are creating a massive safety hazard. High-power appliances, especially ones with a heating element, like space heaters, air fryers and coffee makers are not meant for power strips or extension cords.

Do high-power appliances need extension cords?

High-power appliances, especially ones with a heating element, like space heaters, air fryers and coffee makers are not meant for power strips or extension cords. As Paul Martinez, owner of Electrified NYC in Brooklyn, put it, the rule is "no extension cords whatsoever" for any device that heats up or runs constantly.

When should I unplug my outdoor extension cord?

Just like any electrical device, your outdoor extension cord should be unplugged when not in use. Leaving your cords plugged in unnecessarily increases the risk of damage and potential hazards. When you're ready to unplug your extension cord, do not pull on the cord when removing it from the outlet.

How do you run power outdoors?

Mr. Electric outlines the safest methods for running power outdoors. Plan your route and power needs. Use weatherproof, outdoor-rated conduit and wiring. Dig trenches for underground cables, following local codes. Install GFCI outlets

for safety. Test the system before use. Test the system before use. Looking to 'amp up' your outdoor experience?

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Why should you use an outdoor-only extension cord outside?

Another reason why it's important to use an outdoor-only extension cord outside is because many are designed to withstand various weather conditions like moisture, rain, snow, freezing temperatures and sunlight. These cords have added shielding layers to insulate and protect the fragile wires inside.

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