

## Home Safety Audit

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Conducting an **audit** is like preparing a report card. First you investigate to determine how well something is being done and then you record your findings. The end result is an audit.

**Stroll around your house with a parent** (or the whole family) to determine how electrically safe your home is. Use this list to help you look in the right places so you check out your home from top to bottom, inside and out.

| Places to Check for Electrical Safety  | OK | Need to Improve | Begin a New Habit. |
|--|----|-----------------|--------------------|
| <b>Wall Plates &amp; Outlets</b>   |    |                 |                    |
| • Wall Plates – replace if broken, loose fitting, or missing   |    |                 |                    |
| • Unused Outlets - use safety cover plug-ins   |    |                 |                    |
| • Outlet Use – not overloaded  |    |                 |                    |
| • Outlets and Light Switches - are not warm to the touch; if they are, have the wiring checked by an electrician |    |                 |                    |
| <b>Electrical Cords</b>  |    |                 |                    |
| • Cords – replace if frayed or cracked   |    |                 |                    |
| • Cords – safely placed (so people won't trip or walk over)  |    |                 |                    |
| • Cords – safely placed (not under rugs or carpets)  |    |                 |                    |
| • Cords – have no furniture resting on them  |    |                 |                    |
| • Cords – are not stapled or nailed to anything  |    |                 |                    |
| • Extension Cords – not overloaded and only used on a temporary basis  |    |                 |                    |
| <b>Plugs</b>   |    |                 |                    |
| • Plugs - securely plugged into outlet (not loose fitting)   |    |                 |                    |
| • Ground Prong - not bent or removed to fit a 2-prong outlet   |    |                 |                    |
| <b>Light Bulbs</b>   |    |                 |                    |
| • Bulb Wattage – check to ensure the wattage is correct for the fixture size (check fixture recommendation)      |    |                 |                    |
| • Bulbs - securely screwed in (loose bulbs may overheat)   |    |                 |                    |

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|---|----|-----------------|--------------------|
| <b>Appliances</b>   |    |                 |                    |
| • Appliance Maintenance – appliances maintained in good working order – they don't spark, smoke or give you a shock               |    |                 |                    |
| • Appliance Wattage – high wattage appliances not plugged into same outlet as other high wattage items (circuit breaker may trip) |    |                 |                    |
| • Appliance Use – all electrical appliances including radios, TVs, and hair dryers are kept away from sinks and bathtubs.         |    |                 |                    |
| • Appliance Care - always unplugged before cleaning   |    |                 |                    |

|   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| <b>Space Heaters</b>  |  |  |  |
| • Space Heater Use – used for extra heat and not as the main heat source (turned off and unplugged when not in use) |  |  |  |
| • Heaters are safely placed so they will not tip over   |  |  |  |
| • Heaters are only used by adults or with adult supervision   |  |  |  |
| • Heaters are at least one metre from combustible materials and bedding   |  |  |  |

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|---|--|--|--|
| <b>Outdoor Safety</b>   |  |  |  |
| • Heavy-duty extension cords (rated for outdoor use) are used.  |  |  |  |
| • Portable power tools are unplugged when not in use.   |  |  |  |
| • Metal ladders, which conduct electricity, are safely placed or stored away from overhead wires and power lines.   |  |  |  |
| • CALL BEFORE YOU DIG (1-800-242-3447). Electricity may come into your home through underground wires – call first. |  |  |  |

|                                  |  |  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|--|--|
| <b>Other Things Investigated</b> |  |  |  |
| •                                |  |  |  |
| •                                |  |  |  |

Well, how did you do on your home electrical safety audit?  
Be aware of electricity and always use it safely and wisely.

