

Electrical Installations

Additional Resources:

- [OSHA QuickCard™ \(Spanish\)](#)
- [OSHA QuickCard™ \(Spanish\)](#) --- **Portable Generator Safety**
- [Complete OSHA Standard 1926.400](#)

All 120-volt, single-phase, 15- and 20- ampere receptacles that are not part of the permanent wiring must be protected by Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters.

Receptacles on smaller generators are exempt under certain conditions.
1926.404(b)(ii)

Light bulbs for general illumination must be protected from breakage, and metal shell sockets must be grounded. 1926.405(a)(2)(ii)(E)

Temporary lights must not be suspended by their cords, unless they are so designed. 1926.405(a)(2)(ii)(F)

Portable lighting used in wet or conductive locations, such as tanks or boilers, must be operated at no more than 12 volts or must be protected by GFCIs.
1926.405(a)(2)(ii)(G)

Extension cords must be of the three-wire type. 1926.405(a)(2)(ii)(J)

Extension cords and flexible cords must be designed for hard or extra hard usage (for example, Type SJ, SJO, SJT, SJTO, S, SO, ST, and STO) and shall not be used unless durably marked on the surface with the type designation, size, and number of conductors. 1926.405(a)(2)(ii)(J)

Flexible cords shall be used only in continuous lengths without splice or tap. Hard service flexible cords No. 12 or larger may be repaired if spliced so that the splice retains the insulation, outer sheath properties, and usage characteristics of the cord being spliced. Electrical tape ALONE is not permitted. 1926.405 (g)(2)(iii)

Flexible cords must be connected to devices and fittings so that strain relief is provided which will prevent pull from being directly transmitted to joints or terminal screws. 1926.405(g)(2)(iv)

Worn or frayed electric cords or cables shall not be used. 1926.416(e)(1)

Extension cords shall not be fastened with staples, hung from nails, or suspended by wire. 1926.416(e)(2)

Work spaces, walkways, and similar locations shall be kept clear of cords.
1926.416(b)(2)

Listed, labeled, or certified equipment shall be installed and used in accordance with instructions included in the listing, labeling, or certification. 1926.403(b)(2)