



## BEC QUICK SAFETY TIPS

### Electrical Safety in Homes



- Fires are frequently caused by improper installation of electrical devices by untrained electricians.
- It is essential to remember that water and electricity do not mix. This is extremely dangerous and must be avoided at all times.
- When you use electrical devices safely, you can prevent electrical problems
- Always use the proper size fuse. Never place a penny behind a fuse when you do not have a spare fuse.
- Clothing or towels should never be placed on a lampshade. This is a fire hazard.
- Ensure that proper wattage is used on all light fixtures. Most light fixtures are labeled to indicate the brightest bulb that can be safely used.
- Use only extension cords that are rated for the power used by the device they are powering.
- Ensure that only authorized and licensed electricians conduct electrical installations.
- All electrical appliances used outdoors should be designed for that purpose.
- Outdoor receptacles should be the ground fault circuit interrupting type (GFCI).

#### **Clues that indicate electrical problems in the home:**

- Frequently blown fuses or broken circuits.
- A frequently blown bulb is a sign the bulb is too high a wattage for the fixture.
- A warm electrical cord is an indication that the cord is underrated or defective.
- When you insert or remove a plug and sparks appear, you may have a loose connection.
- Flickering lights could be an indication that the circuit is overloaded or has a loose connection.