



Protect Your Home and Family: Simple Electrical Safety Tips

Keeping our customers and communities safe is a core value at Idaho Power. That's why we're sharing the following reminders about at-home electrical safety — so you can keep you and your loved ones safe. Find more information at idahopower.com/safety

Cords


- Place cords where they won't be damaged by walking on them, pose a tripping hazard, or go unnoticed if damaged.
- Ensure cords are not broken, frayed, or damaged. If they are, replace them immediately.
- If you have small kids, ensure cords remain out of their reach.

Outlets

- Don't plug too many cords into an outlet.
- Ensure any outlets near water sources (in bathrooms, kitchens near a sink, or outdoor outlets) are ground-fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) protected.
- Plug outdoor lights into GFCI-protected outlets.
- Place safety covers over outlets, especially if you have small children, and never let them play with outlets.
- Talk to kids about electrical safety and the importance of never placing items in outlets that don't belong.

Appliances

- Use Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. (UL) approved appliances. The UL seal ensures the product has been safety tested.
- Never use any electric appliance — including hair dryers, TVs, and radios — near water-filled sinks, bathtubs, or toilets; never put any appliance in water.
- Always dry your hands before touching electric appliances.
- Keep the floor around your washer and dryer clean and dry.

 If an appliance falls into a filled tub or sink, or if you touch an electric appliance with wet hands or while standing in water, you risk severe electrical shock and possibly death.

Electric Space Heaters

- Keep flammable materials away from electric heaters.
- Don't place blankets, drapes, or furniture close to electric heaters or hot plates.

Portable Generators

- Always operate generators in open, dry, well-ventilated areas.
- Never plug your generator into an outlet, and don't connect it directly to your home's main fuse box or circuit panel. Doing so could cause a fire in your home or seriously harm electrical workers.
- To temporarily power an appliance, plug it directly into the generator.
- Use properly sized and grounded extension cords and power strips.
- Ensure the total electric demand on your generator doesn't exceed its rating.
- Periodically have your generator maintained by a professional.



Protect Sensitive Electronics with a Surge Suppressor



All homes and businesses experience electrical disturbances or power surges. Most surges start inside a home or business and are due to equipment — like exhaust fans or air handlers — cycling on and off. Outside the home, lightning, animals, traffic accidents, equipment breakdowns, and other events can also cause power surges that may damage your equipment.

Plugging sensitive equipment — like expensive electronics with circuit boards (e.g., TVs or computers) — into a high-quality surge suppressor is an inexpensive way to help protect it from power surges and may help extend the life of your equipment.

Surge suppressors cannot prevent power outages, and they must be plugged into a properly grounded three-prong outlet to work.

When buying a surge suppressor, ensure you're not buying a simple power strip, and to look for the following:

- UL listed
- Room to plug in AC and DC adapters
- Connections for coaxial cable or other communication lines, if needed
- Status or indicator lights to show the device is functioning properly (not just that it's on)
- Protection for electromagnetic interference (EMI)
- Protection for radio-frequency interference (RFI)
- Warranty and insurance: Five years on the suppressor and coverage for your connected equipment
- A rating of 500 joules or more

Learn more about options for whole-home surge protection at idahopower.com/safety.

Did You Know?

Hydropower is our largest energy resource and helps keep your prices 20-30% below the national average.

Please recycle this newsletter.

Protecting Your Farm or Ranch Equipment

When it comes to winter on the ranch or farm, don't forget about your electrical equipment. Taking steps to protect your motors and other electrical systems in cold weather — or when they're not in use — and preparing them for spring keeps you safe and your equipment running smoothly.

As you prepare for irrigation season, have a qualified electrician clean out your electrical panels and motors.

During the off-season, dust, debris, and critters can find their way into motors and other electrical equipment. This buildup can clog air passages and cause overheating or lead to electrical faults. Regular maintenance helps ensure everything operates safely and efficiently.

If you operate variable-frequency drives (VFD), consider switching off the breakers that power them when not in use. VFDs stay partially

powered even when idle, which leaves them vulnerable to sudden voltage surges that can damage or even destroy your equipment. Turning off the breaker completely de-energizes the VFD and helps protect it during downtime.

Pro tip: Watch your winter energy bills or check your online energy usage for irrigation systems.

If you notice unexpected energy use, it might signal an electrical fault downstream of the meter. If you see unexplained energy use and believe the system is off, **do not go to the equipment to investigate!** There could be an active fault in the equipment, which can be very dangerous. Instead, contact Idaho Power, and ask for your agricultural representative or a power quality engineer to investigate the issue.

Visit idahopower.com/agrep to find your agricultural representative.

From the Electric Kitchen Almond Crunch Cake

- 1½ cup sugar
- 1 tsp instant coffee
- ¼ cup corn syrup
- ¼ cup water
- 1 Tbsp baking soda
- ½ cup sliced blanched almonds, toasted
- 2 cups whipping cream
- 2 tsp vanilla
- 1 (10-inch) angel food cake

Cook sugar, instant coffee, corn syrup, and water in a saucepan to a hard-crack stage. Remove from heat and add baking soda. Stir vigorously until mixture pulls away from side of pan. Quickly pour foamy mixture into buttered 9 x 9 x 2-inch pan. Do not spread or stir. Cool; tap bottom of pan to remove. Crush into coarse crumbs.

Split cake into three layers. Whip cream and add vanilla, half of the crumbs, and a few almonds. Frost the layers of the cake and trim with almonds.

Recipe selected from Idaho Power's Centennial Celebration Cookbook.



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Dessert

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