TIPS FOR SAFE, EFFECTIVE USE OF 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.
- Place cords where they won't be a tripping hazard.
- Make sure the total electric demand on your generator doesn't exceed its rating.
- Periodically have your generator maintained by a professional.

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For more information on electrical generators, call Idaho Power at **208-388-2323**

and ask to speak to a power quality engineer.

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Whatever your portable generator runs on — fuel or batteries — it's important to use it SAFELY.

Here are some guidelines.

120-volt alternating current (VAC) generator

Use a separate extension cord to connect each device — such as a freezer, refrigerator, or lamp — to your 120-VAC generators. This method is inexpensive and separates the generator from Idaho Power's grid. It will not power a well pump.

240-VAC generator

Connect your 240-VAC generator to your home's electrical system using a doublepole, double-throw enclosed transfer switch to ensure safe electrical separation from Idaho Power's grid. Switches come with 100- and 200-amp ratings.

> Choose the SWITCH that best fits your home.

Protect your generator

You can avoid overloading your generator by turning off breakers for your water heater, oven, baseboard heaters, electric furnace, large motors, and other power-intensive devices before switching power to the generator.

What size generator do you need?

Make a list of every appliance and device you want to power with your generator. Write down how many watts each device uses and add up the watts.

Example:

Chest Freezer	400 watts
Refrigerator	400 watts
TV	100 watts
Well Pump	750 watts
Five 13-watt LED light bulbs	65 watts
Home Security System	60 watts
Total 1 775 watte	

Well pumps, freezers, refrigerators, and other appliances use a lot of power when they're starting up. Multiply your devices' total watts by 1.5 to 2 when choosing a generator. The equipment in the example above would take a generator capable of providing 3,000 watts.



The transfer switch is very important.

Electrical workers can be seriously hurt, even killed, if your generator is not completely separated from Idaho Power's system with a transfer switch, and your generator likely will be destroyed. A qualified electrician should install the transfer switch. Installation of the transfer switch requires a state electrical permit and inspection.

NOTE: Batteries and other energy-storage devices that are part of your home's electrical system, whether they export energy to Idaho Power's grid or are strictly for backup, must comply with all rules set forth by the Idaho Public Utilities Commission's Schedule 68 tariff. For more information, visit idahopower.com/solar or contact us at cg@idahopower.com.