

# **EL DORADO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU**

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## **EXTENSION CORDS**

Article 85 of the Uniform Fire Code and Article 400-8 of the National Electrical Code state the following: "Extension cords shall not be used as a substitute for permanent wiring. Extension cords shall not be affixed to structures, extended through walls, ceilings, floors, under doors or floor coverings, nor be subjected to environmental damage or physical impact."

*Extension cords are permitted only for temporary use with portable appliances or fixtures, while in immediate use, in accordance with the following:*

1. Each extension cord shall be plugged directly into an approved receptacle and shall, except for approved multiplug extension cords, serve only one appliance or fixture.
2. The current capacity of the cord shall be not less than the rated capacity of the appliance or fixture.
3. The extension cord is maintained in good condition without splices, deterioration or damage.
4. The extension cord is of the grounded type when servicing grounded appliances or fixtures.

To provide additional permanent outlets, the wiring must be installed by an electrician, provided with proper circuit protection, and comply with all requirements of the El Dorado County Building Department.

Extension cords shall not be smaller than 18 gauge and shall be labeled every 24 inches.

All cords, appliances, etc., shall be approved and labeled by a nationally recognized testing laboratory (U.L., F.M., etc.)

