

Portable Tool Use with Extension Cords

Another potential hazard is using extension cords with portable tools. In construction, these cords suffer a lot of wear and tear. Often, the damage is only to the insulation, exposing energized conductors. When a person handling the damaged cord contacts the exposed wires while holding a metal tool case or contacting a conductive surface, serious electrical shock can result, causing a fall, physical injury, or death.

Since neither *insulation* nor [grounding](#) protects you from these conditions, use other protective measures. One acceptable method is a *ground-fault circuit interrupter* ([GFCI](#)).

