RCD

ELECTRICAL EXTENSION LEADS (110V & 230V)

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS & WARNINGS

It is in the interests of those operating this equipment, and for the safety of others, that these SAFETY PRECAUTIONS & WARNINGS are carefully read and understood before operating this equipment.

PURPOSE

1. Extension leads are used to connect a piece of electrical equipment, or tool, to a mains supply when the equipment, or the tools, own electrical cable is too short in length to reach from the mains power source to the intended place of work.
2. This safety leaflet embraces both 110v (yellow plug) and 230v (square pin or blue plug) extension cables.
3. Extension leads are usually supplied in one of two forms:
   - A cable drum type, where the extension lead is wound around a drum (usually on a self-supporting stand with a handle to assist re-winding the cable after use) with one-to-four socket outlets located on the drum casing. This type of extension is more suited for outdoor use.
   - A length of loose cable attached to a multi-gang socket outlet block. This type of extension must not be used for outdoors where there is a likelihood of it becoming wet or subjected to damage by traffic.

PERSONAL SAFETY

4. The extension lead is designed for use by an able bodied adult. Anyone with either temporary or permanent disability must seek expert advice before using it. It must not be used or connected by minors, or by anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
5. If the extension lead is not used in a safe, careful and controlled way, personal injury or injury to others may result.
6. Before starting your work think and plan ahead to ensure you, and others around you, will be working in a safe environment.
7. With regard to electrical safety implications when using extension leads, see the section on 'ELECTRICAL SAFETY' below.

ELECTRICAL SAFETY

8. Electricity is dangerous and must always be treated with due care and consideration.
9. Always check the extension leads power rating against that of any equipment or tool that is to be connected to it. Do not overload the circuit.
10. To safeguard against electrical shock, always connect the extension lead to a residual current device (RCD) that in turn is connected to a 230v socket.
11. Before using the equipment, press the 'RED' test button on the RCD to ensure that it is working. Re-set the RCD according to the instructions provided.
12. Protect others from electric shock.
13. Ensure the extension lead plug contains the correctly rated fuse for the equipment, or tool, being used.
14. Ensure the extension lead has an earth wire if it is being used with Class1 equipment (metal- cored equipment, or tool). Never use 2-core extension cables.
15. Never use multi-way plug adaptors with an extension lead, use an additional extension lead.
16. If you are unsure as to the suitability of the extension lead for its intended use, consult an electrician.
17. If you are unsure about connecting the extension lead to the equipment, or tool, consult an electrician.

OPERATING AREA SAFETY

18. Before commencing work, ensure that the area you are to operate the equipment, or lay the extension lead, is in a safe environment. Erect safety barriers and warning signs as necessary.
19. Make sure that the work area is clear of obstructions and other hazards (projections, other equipment, heat sources, etc.).
20. Before commencing work, warn others who may be working in the vicinity of the presence of an extension lead. If possible place safety barriers around your work area and cable run.
21. Do not use extension leads in the rain or where they may become wet.
22. Do not use extension leads where there is a danger of igniting fumes from petrol, or gas cylinders.

USING THE EXTENSION CABLE

SAFETY CHECKS

23. Visually inspect the extension lead for serviceability (completeness, signs of damage to the outer insulating covering (tears, splits or chaffing), security of plugs and sockets, damage to the plugs and sockets, etc.). Do not use the extension lead if found damaged or worn - contact the hire company immediately.
24. When using a number of pieces of equipment, or tools, simultaneously, be aware that their total power usage does not exceed the extension lead power rating.
25. When routing the extension lead, avoid immersion in any form of liquid.
26. When using a cable drum extension lead, ensure the cable is completely unwound from the drum to prevent the cable overheating.
27. When using portable power tools, avoid entanglement with the extension lead.
28. Do not 'over stretch' the extension lead when routing the cable.
29. Avoid trapping the extension lead in windows, doorways and other areas that could cause damage to the cable.
30. Avoid laying the extension lead in areas that are subject to site traffic or where people can walk over them or where they can cause a tripping hazard.
31. Ensure all connections are kept dry and free from debris.
32. Ensure the extension lead is connected to the equipment, or tool, before switching-on the power supply.

SECURITY & MAINTENANCE

33. Visually check the condition of the extension lead at the start of each day.
34. Periodically clean the extension lead to ensure it is free from dust, dirt and other debris.
35. Do not leave the extension lead connected, or unattended, for long periods (i.e. overnight), ensure it is made secure to prevent unauthorized use or loss.

COLLECTION & PICK-UP

45. For safety reasons this equipment requires you to use a **VAN** or an **ESTATE**.