



# Keep the holidays safe and bright

- \* Inspect electrical decorations. Discard those with frayed sockets or loose or bare wires.
- \* Follow use and care instructions that accompany electrical decorations.
- \* Choose holiday decorations made with flame-resistant, flame-retardant or non-combustible materials whenever possible.
- \* Use lights that are approved by an independent testing laboratory such as UL.
- \* Never staple or nail through light strings or electrical/extension cords.
- \* Before using lights, animated displays or other electrical products outdoors, make sure the product is approved for outdoor use.
- \* Check packaging for the maximum number of light strings that may be connected.
- \* When replacing a light bulb, follow the manufacturer's recommended wattage.
- \* Turn off all electrical light strings, candles and decorations before leaving home or going to bed. Automatic lighting timers are available for both indoor and outdoor applications, and can be used to ensure that lights are not left on.
- \* To reduce the chance of electric shock, use a dry, wooden ladder when hanging holiday lights and be sure to stay clear of overhead electrical wires.
- \* Waterproof all electrical connections and keep them elevated so water won't drain into the connection and cause a short circuit or shock.
- \* For added electric shock protection, plug outdoor electric lights and decorations into circuits protected by ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs).
- \* Fasten outdoor lights securely to trees, house walls, or other firm supports to protect against wind damage. To hold light strings in place, use insulated staples or run strings of lights through non-metal clips or hooks (available at hardware stores).



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