



FIRE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR BOOTHS AT INDOOR & OUTDOOR FAIRS, BAZAARS, FLEA MARKETS, ETC

This information sheet is designed to assist you in proper booth set up, while maintaining fire and life safety standards. Below is a list of the **most common fire safety violations**, which have been encountered during past inspections.

ELECTRICAL: **THIS IS THE MOST COMMON VIOLATION!!** Extension cords shall meet the following requirements:

- Be a minimum of 14-gauge with a maximum length of fifty (50) feet.
 - Be grounded and maintained in good condition without splices, deterioration or damage.
 - Shall be affixed to the structure in an approved manner, not extended through walls, ceilings or floors, under doors, or be subject to damage.
 - Multi-plug adapters shall be of a type with an integral circuit breaker and shall not be used in a series.
- 1) **Commercial Food Preparation**: Commercial preparation of food shall require an approved ventilation hood system. Food preparation which emits grease laden vapors (i.e., deep fat frying, hamburgers, chicken, etc.) shall require an approved fire suppression system and a Type K fire extinguisher.
 - 2) **Compressed Gas Cylinders**: All cylinders shall be secured from tipping over with a chain, cable or approved manner and affixed to a solid object.
 - 3) **Emergency Fire Access Roads and Hydrants**: Emergency access roads and hydrants shall not be blocked or obstructed in any manner. Violators may be towed.
 - 4) **Fire Extinguishers**: Fire extinguishers shall have been serviced within one (1) year, having a tag affixed and shall be visible and accessible at all times. Fire extinguishers shall have a minimum rating of 2A-10BC.
 - 5) **Propane and Flammable Gases**: No storage of propane or flammable gases is allowed in any tent, canopy or building of public assembly. Liquid propane gasses shall have a maximum of 16 ounces per canister for hand held flame.

FIRE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR BOOTHS AT FAIRS/BAZAAR/BOUTIQUES

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- 6) **Tents, Tarps and Awnings:** All tents, tarps and awnings shall be made from material which is not flammable or is treated and maintained in a flame-retardant manner. Documentation of Certification is required. Covering of displays with non-approved tarps or plastics **after business hours** is approved. All non-approved tarps or plastic shall be removed prior to opening a building or business to the public.

Note: A special tent permit from the Pierce County Fire Prevention Bureau is required under the following conditions:

- Tent or temporary membrane structure is OVER 400 sq. ft.
- Canopy is OVER 700 sq. ft.

If you have any questions regarding any of these requirements, call the Pierce County Fire Prevention Bureau at (253) 798-7179.

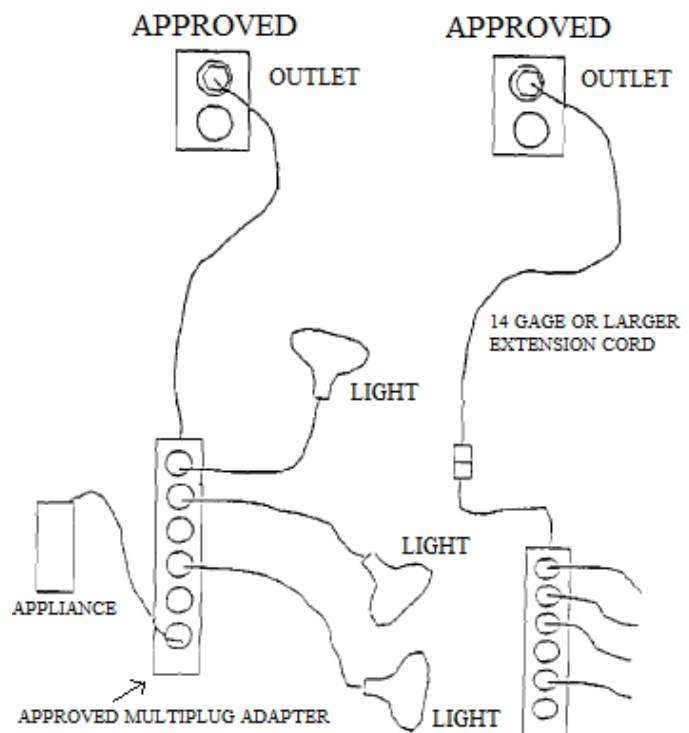
TEMPORARY WIRING

NOTE: The Fire Inspector shall have the authority to require the vendor to disconnect and/or remove any non compliant electrical device.

The graphic below is presented to give a visual understanding of approved and non-approved methods of temporary wiring for light and appliances at fairs, carnivals and shows.

Remember the following parameters:

- 1) Extension cords that are less than 14 gauge in size will not be allowed to extend electrical service.
- 2) Extension cords shall supply power to one multi-plug adapter only.
- 3) Multi-plug adapters shall not be used in a series.
- 4) Approved multi-plug adapters/power taps with a testing laboratory's label stamped on them, or attached to them are allowed. The word "APPROVED" means the unit has been tested and approved for its intended use by a nationally recognized testing laboratory; such as Underwriters Laboratories or Factory Mutual. Adapters must have over current protection that will activate and shut off the current if the adapter is overloaded.



Note: If you are unable to reach the outlet with the plug connected to the appliance, you will require an extension cord of 14 gauge or larger (Larger would be 10 or 12 gauge.)