



Electric Cord Safety

Power tools are widely used on construction sites. Flexible extension cords are often necessary to provide electricity to the tool. Due to the very reasons they are used, (exposed, flexible, and unsecured) they are more susceptible to damage than fixed wiring.

Here is an Example

Bernard was using a coring machine to make holes in a concrete floor. The 120-volt coring machine was supplied with power via two extension cords connected together. One of the extension cords was missing its grounding prong. The cords were plugged into a permanent electrical outlet. Bernard placed the coring machine where he wanted to make the hole. When he turned on the power, Bernard received an electrical shock, and later died from that shock.

1. How could this incident have been avoided?

Safe Handling and Inspection of Electrical Cords

- Inspect all extension cords daily for damage and missing grounding prongs.
- Protect extension cords from damage.
- Never use a metal outlet box as an extension cord.
- Never use Romex or non-metallic cable as extension cords.
- Avoid using staples and nails to hold extension cords in place.
- Use a Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI) to protect against any electrical fault.

What Are We Going to Do Today?

What will we do here at the worksite today to prevent injuries from extension cords?

1. _____

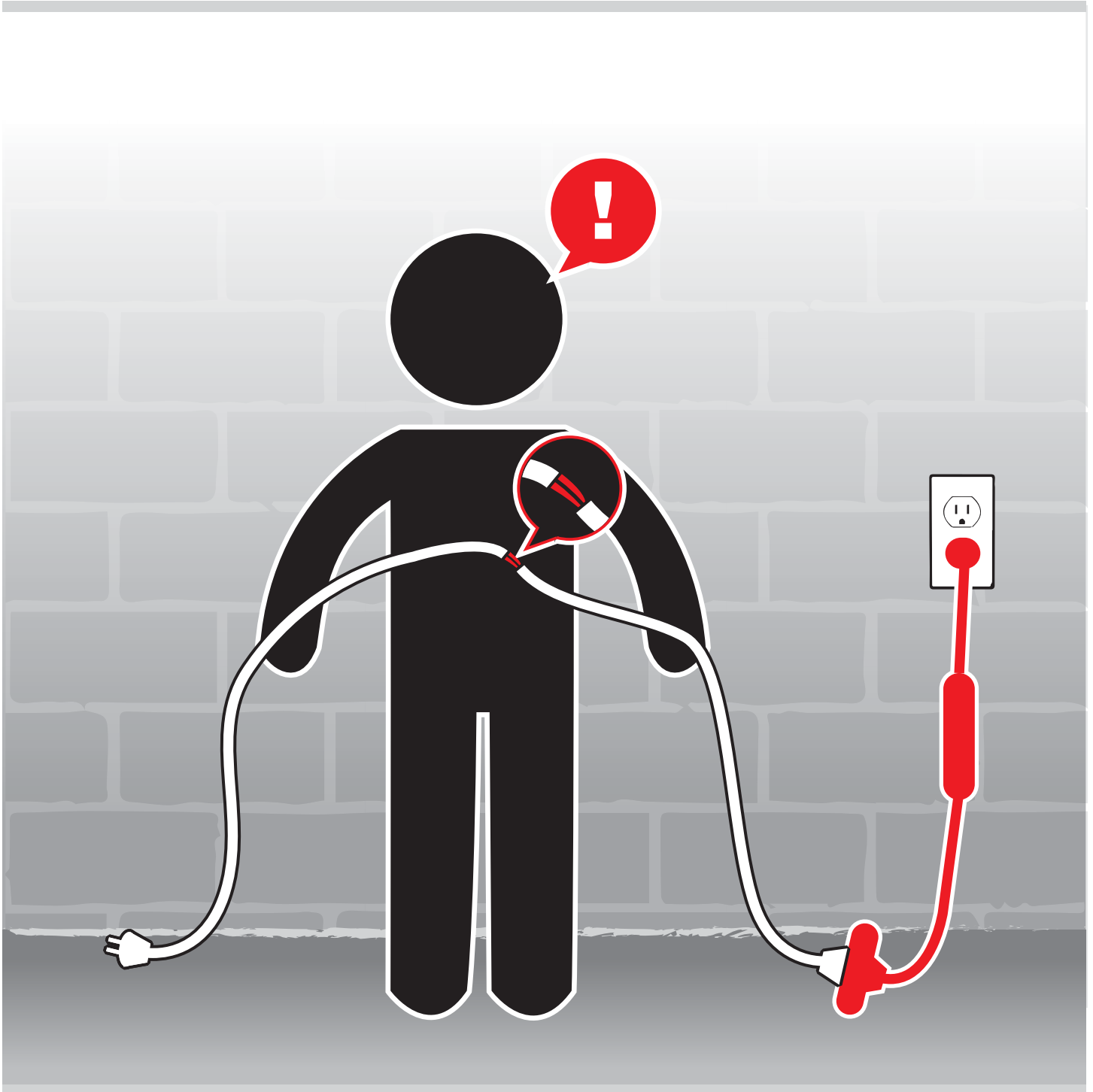
2. _____

3. _____

OSHA REGULATION: 1926.404-405



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