

FIRE INSPECTION TIP #1

Daisy-Chaining Power Strips and Surge Suppressors

During the course of the annual Fire and Building Safety Inspections, it has come to our attention that power strips (surge suppressors) are being connected together, or daisy-chained, to provide additional outlets for technology devices. This is an unacceptable practice. Each power strip must be plugged directly into a duplex outlet and, if used on a permanent basis, mounted so as to avoid being damaged from contact with cleaning materials and cleaning equipment. When power strips or surge suppressors are to be utilized for electronic equipment then the corresponding number of duplex outlets must be provided so that there is one outlet for each strip or suppressor used. Also, any power strips used in schools must have integral over-current protection built into the device and be listed by UL, FM, etc., for their application.

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