Environmental Health & Safety
Carnegie Mellon University

SHOCKING TIPS ABOUT ELECTRICAL SAFETY

Electrical Fire Safety Tips

• Do not piggyback or plug a power strip of any type into another.

• Do not overload electrical sockets.

• Never use an extension cord with an appliance — plug them directly into wall sockets.

• Never place anything that can burn over a lamp.

DID YOU KNOW?

More than 400 die from electrical home fires annually in the United States.

Overloaded extension cords, power strips and outlets are one of the leading causes of fires in college housing.

Many college students live in older off-campus housing equipped with electrical wiring that can’t safely handle the modern power demands from microwave ovens, compact refrigerators and personal computers, used by the multiple residents living there.

Check with your college/university to see which types of appliances are allowed or prohibited in residence hall rooms.

Visit www.usfa.fema.gov/college to learn more.