

Do you Know Where Flexible Cords May Not Be Used?

1910.305(g)(1)(iv)

Basically, I am talking about extension cords in this paper. I can't tell you how many times I have been at jobsites or in factories and seen the misuse of extension cords. Listed below is the OSHA regulation that states how flexible cords may not be used.

1910.305(g)(1)(iv)

Unless specifically permitted otherwise in paragraph (g)(1)(ii) of this section, flexible cords and cables may not be used:

1910.305(g)(1)(iv)(A)

As a substitute for the fixed wiring of a structure; **Review your worksite and look for equipment that is plug into an extension cord. You will be surprised how many extension cords are in use.**

1910.305(g)(1)(iv)(B)

Where run through holes in walls, ceilings, or floors; **This is very common when construction is going on or misc. maintenance projects. There is not an electrical outlet outside or in the room the work is being performed and the employee runs it through walls, ceiling or floors. Please protect the cord if this situation is necessary.**

1910.305(g)(1)(iv)(C)

Where run through doorways, windows, or similar openings; **I seen this violated more than all of the others. Employees look at me a say what else can I do? Or state that it is not that big of deal. That attitude can cause problems in the long run.**

1910.305(g)(1)(iv)(D)

Where attached to building surfaces;

1910.305(g)(1)(iv)(E)

Where concealed behind building walls, ceilings, or floors; or

1910.305(g)(1)(iv)(F)

Where installed in raceways, except as otherwise permitted in this subpart.

1910.305(g)(1)(v)

Flexible cords used in show windows and showcases shall be Type S, SE, SEO, SEOO, SJ, SJE, SJEO, SJEOO, SJO, SJOO, SJT, SJTO, SJTOO, SO, SOO, ST, STO, or STOO, except for the wiring of chain-supported lighting fixtures and supply cords for portable lamps and other merchandise being displayed or exhibited.

What am I trying to convey with this paper? Some of the simplest things can cause problems in your workplace. Make sure you understand the regulations and train your employees accordingly. Most employees will comply with the regulations as long as you show them the standard and have expectations.

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