

Generator Safety

When the lights go out, generators are a convenient source of emergency power. However, generators produce carbon monoxide (CO) which can cause death.



Safety Tips



If using a portable generator, have battery-operated or battery back-up CO alarms in the home.



Use the proper outlets (three prongs). Do not overload the generator.



Never connect generators to household wiring without installing a transfer switch. A transfer switch helps to keep electricity traveling in the correct direction and helps protect utility workers from electrocution.

Location and Operation

- Only use generators outdoors. Never use in an attached garage.
- Keep the generator at least 20 feet from doors, windows, and vent openings.
- Never use as a permanent source of electricity.
- Protect the generator from rain or flooding.
- Before refueling, shut down the generator and allow it to cool.
- Use only the recommended fuel.