

Facts You Need To Know About Power Strips

(Household extension cord sets)

- What Are Power Strips
- Typical Power Strips for Households
- Existing Standards for Power Strips
- Regulations on Power Strips
- Do's and Don'ts of Power Strips
- Common Mistakes in Using Power Strips

What are Power Strips ?

(Household extension cord sets)

- A power strip is a length of electrical sockets attached to the end of a flexible cable that plugs into an electrical receptacle (International Association of Certified Home Inspectors). It is used to add additional outlets from existing single wall outlet.
- They are most referred to as “*Portable Outlets,*” and UL referred to as “*Relocatable Power Taps.*”
- In the Philippines, they are generally referred to as household extension cord sets.
- They typically consist of several components, such as multiple electrical receptacles, on/off power switch, circuit breaker, and a grounded flexible power cord.

Typical Power Strips for Households

(Household extension cord sets)



Power Strip with Single or Main Switch



Power Strip with Individual Switch for Each Outlet



Power Strip with USB Charging Ports

Typical Power Strips for Households

(Household extension cord sets)



Switch (On/Off)
With LED light indicator of the MOV (metal oxide varistor) for surge protection

Power strip with switch and surge protector



Existing Standards for Power Strips

(Household extension cord sets)

A large, light green arrow pointing to the right, containing the text 'Philippine National Standard' in blue.

**Philippine
National
Standard**

PNS 1486-1:1996

(IEC published 1994)

Plugs and socket-outlets for household and similar purposes Part 1 : General requirements

PNS 1572:1997

(IEC published 1975)

Plugs and socket outlets for domestic and similar general use standards

Regulation for Power Strips

(Household extension cord sets)

Included in the List of Products Under Mandatory Certification of the DTI BPS

Enabling Law

Implementing Guidelines for the Issuance of PS Quality Certification Mark License for Plugs, and Socket-Outlets for domestic and similar use standards

Covered by PNS 1572:1997

Department Administrative Order (DAO) No. 15-01, Series of 2015

Measures to facilitate the issuance of the Import Commodity Clearance

Implementing Guidelines for the Issuance of PS Certification Mark License for Plugs, and Socket for Household and similar purposes

Covered by PNS 1486-1:1996

Operations Manual for Issuance of Import Commodity Clearance (ICC) for Plugs and socket-outlets for household

Covered by PNS 1486-1:1996

Product image



Important reminder: Look for PS or ICC mark when buying Power Strips

Do's in Using Power Strips

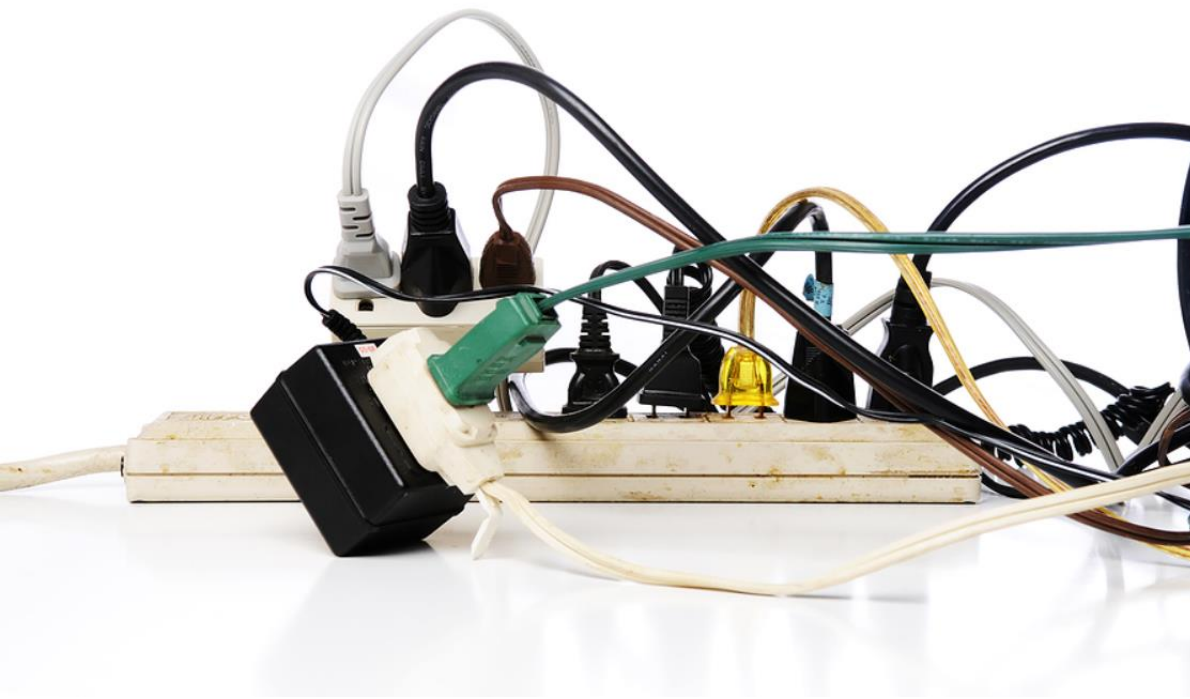
- **Distribute the load evenly:** Spread out the connected devices across the power strip's outlets rather than concentrating them in one area to optimize heat dissipation.
- **Keep away from moisture and heat sources:** Ensure the power strip is kept in a dry location away from water sources and direct heat.
- Power strips should be used sparingly and temporarily with low power appliances and electronic devices like; computers, cell phones, tablets, etc.
- Directly plug the power strip to the wall outlet.

Don'ts in Using Power Strips

- **Do not overload:** The maximum load capacity of a power strip is indicated in Amperes at a corresponding voltage. Exceeding this limit can cause overheating, electrical fires, or damage to your devices.
- **Avoid daisy-chaining:** Do not plug one power strip to another ("daisy-chaining") to extend the number of outlets to prevent overloading.
- Do not plug high power appliances to the power strip. Example: washing machines, clothes dryers, oven toasters, refrigerators, etc.
- Do not use power strips with damaged parts (ex. frayed, melted or burned).
- Power strip cords should not be wound or knotted during use.
- Power strips are not intended to substitute permanent wall outlets.

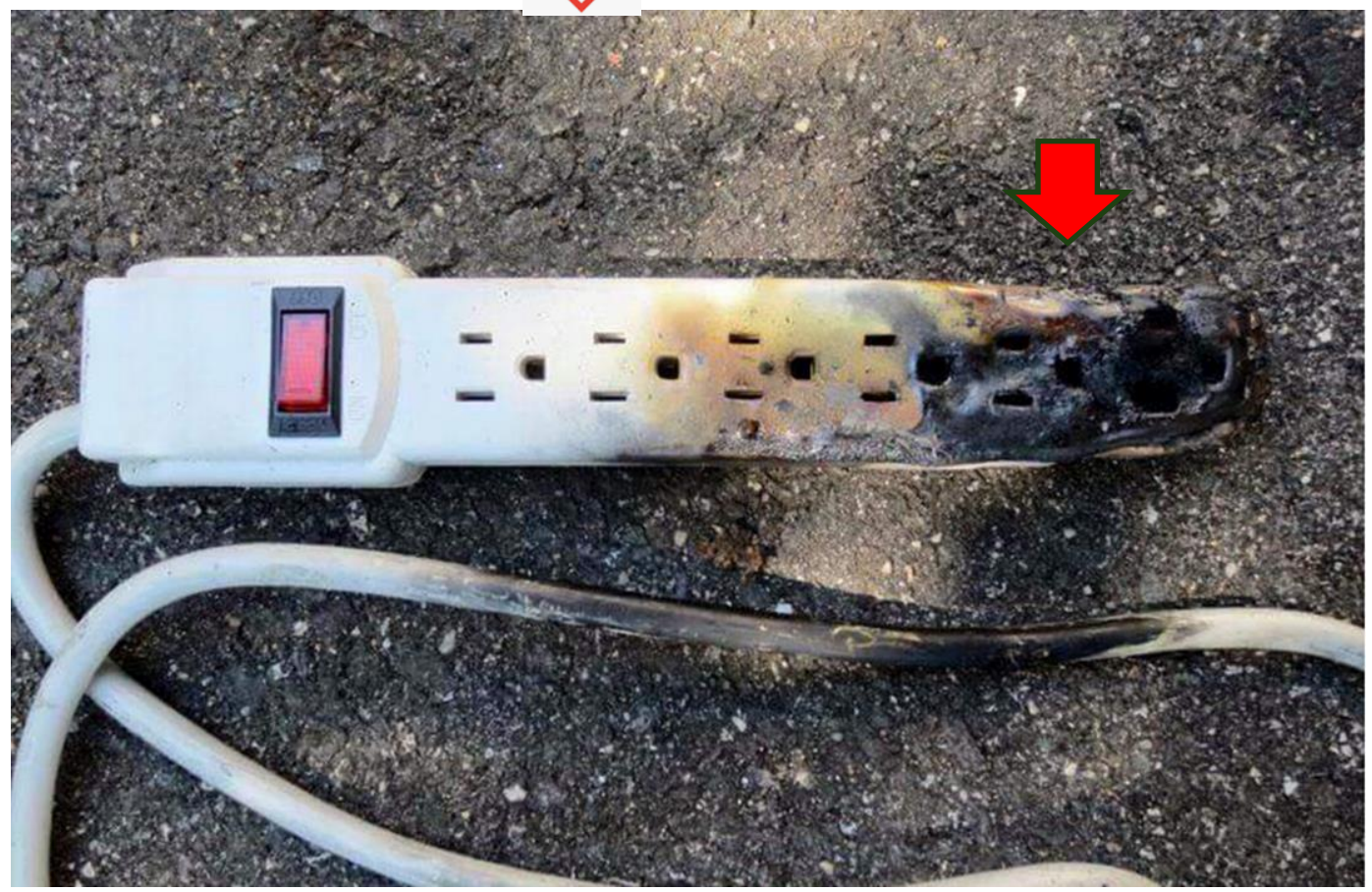
Common Mistakes in Using Power Strips

Overloading/ Daisy-chaining



Common Mistakes in Using Power Strips

Overloading could lead to fire hazard



Common Mistakes in Using Power Strips

Do not use power strips with frayed cords



Frayed cords