Proper Application and Use of Power Strips (RPTs)

Environmental Health & Safety

Also known as:

Relocatable Power Taps (RPTs), Plug Strips, Surge Protectors, Temporary Power Taps, Transient Voltage Surge Suppressors (TVSS)

What they are not:

Extension Cords, Temporary Wiring

DO !

- Use only listed (NRTL approved) RPTs
- Inspect for damage before use
- Follow the manufacturer and UL instructions
- Use RPTs only for low-powered loads (≤5 A/600 W)

DON'T !

- Custom fabricate power strips
- Use RPTs outdoors, or in damp/wet locations
- Daisy-chain RPTs together or use with extension cords
- Permanently mount RPTs

RPTs must be listed by a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL).

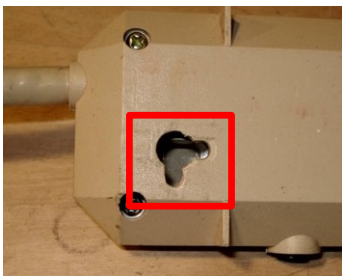
Underwriter's Laboratories or UL is the most common.

See the back side for NRTLs.

Standard RPTs are for use indoors, in dry locations only.

Waterproof RPTs are available for locations subject to spills.

RPTs may not be daisy-chained (connected together), or used with extension cords.



RPTs may be mounted per manufacturer instructions with slots or keyholes.

RPTs are not to be mounted permanently such that tools are required for removal. Mounting with zip ties is not allowed.

Prior to use, RPTs are to be inspected for damage. Check for cracks to the plastic, damaged cord or plug, and evidence of overheating.

If any damage is found, immediately take the RPT out of service and purchase a new one.

Cords of RPTs shall not be run through doorways, windows, or similar openings.

Cords shall not be run through holes in walls, structural ceilings, suspended ceilings, floors, or under rugs or carpets.

Do not exceed the load (ampacity) rating of the device or outlet.

RPTs are for a high concentration of low-powered loads, like computers and electronics.

High-current equipment (>5 A, >600 W), such as space heaters and appliances are to be plugged directly into the wall.

For more information visit ehs.ucr.edu/safety#electrical_safety