



## **Silent Spark Electric: Homeowners' Basic Guide to Electrical Safety**

Your quick and easy guide to keeping your home safe and powered. Learn how to protect your home, prevent electrical hazards, and ensure your family's safety with these simple tips from Silent Spark Electric.

### **Why Read This Guide?**

- Keep your family and home safe.
- Prevent electrical hazards and emergencies.
- Save money with proper maintenance and safety tips.

For professional assistance, contact Silent Spark Electric today!

## 1. Test Smoke Detectors Regularly



### Why it matters:

Smoke detectors are your first line of defense against house fires.

### What to do:

- Test smoke detectors at least once a month by pressing the 'test' button.
- Replace batteries every 6 months or as needed.
- Replace the entire unit every 10 years.

## 2. Check and Maintain GFCI Outlets



### Why it matters:

Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCIs) prevent electrical shocks in areas with water, like kitchens, bathrooms, and outdoor outlets.

### What to do:

- Test GFCIs monthly by pressing the 'test' button, then reset it to ensure it's functioning.
- Replace any outlets that won't reset or have visible damage.

### 3. Schedule Annual Panel Maintenance



#### **Why it matters:**

A well-maintained electrical panel reduces the risk of electrical fires and improves system efficiency.

#### **What to do:**

- Hire a licensed electrician (like Silent Spark Electric!) to inspect and service your panel yearly.
- Ensure no circuits are overloaded and all connections are secure.

## 4. Avoid Overloading Circuits



### **Why it matters:**

Overloaded circuits can lead to overheating and potential fire hazards.

### **What to do:**

- Avoid plugging too many devices into a single outlet or power strip.
- Use heavy-duty power strips with built-in surge protectors.
- Spread high-power devices (like space heaters) across different circuits.

## 5. Use Surge Protectors Wisely



### Why it matters:

Power surges can damage electronics and appliances, costing you money.

### What to do:

- Install surge protectors for valuable electronics (TVs, computers, etc.).
- Consider whole-home surge protection for added safety.
- Avoid daisy-chaining power strips.

## **Bonus Tips for Everyday Electrical Safety**

### **Why it matters:**

Electrical safety is critical to prevent hazards in your home.

### **What to do:**

- Never use damaged or frayed extension cords.
- Keep all electrical devices away from water.
- Call a licensed electrician if you notice flickering lights, buzzing outlets, or burning smells.

### **Conclusion**

Taking small steps can prevent big problems! Regular maintenance and safe practices will keep your home protected and your family safe.

For more tips or to schedule a professional inspection, contact Silent Spark Electric today!