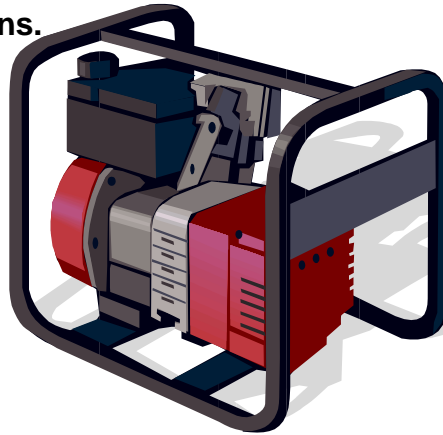


Helpful Generator Tips

- Always follow manufacturer's directions.
- Run the portable generator outdoors in a well-ventilated space, like a porch.
- Store the generator fuel in approved containers away from your home.



- Never refuel a hot generator. Turn it off and let it cool down before adding more fuel.
- Never bring a portable generator into the house or garage. It can create deadly carbon monoxide, which you cannot smell, taste or see.

A portable generator generally can be used in two ways:

Plug appliances directly into it. Most generators have one or a couple of plugs.

If you're using extension cords to reach the generator, they should be sufficiently sized and rated for the appliances you're plugging in. Never use an indoor household extension cord. It's not adequate.

Most generators will stop running when they're overloaded, because the breaker trips. Reset the breaker and plug in fewer items or smaller ones. It may be aggravating, but it's a safety feature.

Visit South Central Power Online for outage preparedness tips.

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Have it professionally wired into your electric service panel by a licensed electrician.

South Central Power requires that when a portable generator is used this way that a double pole-double throw switch also is installed.

It's a transfer switch that prevents electricity from flowing from two sources at the same time.

When generator power "backfeeds" into the electric system, it can injure or even kill a lineman even if he's working miles away.

And when the utility restores power, the electricity flowing back into your home can damage the generator and possibly whatever it's connected to.

The double throw switch can be automatic. It switches your house to generator power automatically when you lose electricity from your electric company. Or it can be a manual switch that requires you to physically switch to generator power.

Remember, it's not possible to power your entire home with the typical portable generator. Be selective in which appliances you'll need, and, if necessary, rotate them during the outage.