



Painting Fundamental - 20

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Need: To roll electrical cords properly without twisting the cords within the housing. Electric cords have a natural lay and its best to not go against it.

Procedure Steps:

1. Over Under
 - a. Hold cord end in one hand. Put a loop in your hand with the cord over the loop. Next loop put the cord under the loop, repeat these alternating loops.
2. Ground
 - a. Lay extension cord on the ground and coil it like a garden hose. If all coils are flat, you're good.
3. Bucket
 - a. Coil cord in a bucket with a hole for the male end to plug in and you pull out the female end from the bucket opening the desired length when done. Coil the used length back in the bucket.
4. Cord Reel
 - a. Wind cord up on a reel so it's ready to use. Downside is it can be expensive.

Tips:

- For the attached cords start with method 1 or 2 at the attached end. If you start from the free end you run the risk of twisting the wires within the sheathing causing twists and links resulting in a coil that will not lay nicely or lay flat when on the ground.
- Don't uncoil an entire cord if you only need a portion of it.
- A lighter gauge electrical cord that is used for a heavier tool that requires more amperage can overheat especially if it's left partially coiled. Choose the best weight cord for your tool. A good rule of thumb is to match the diameter of the electrical cord to the diameter of the tool cord.
- Velcro cords wraps can help keep the rolled cord wrapped tightly and securely until it's next use.
- The around the arm coil method that homeowners use is not recommended for painting contractors. It tends to twist the wires within the casing which over time can damage the cord.
- When using electrical cords to power more than one piece of equipment, do not overload any one outlet.
- When rolling up a cord, it is a good time to examine the cord for damage. A damaged cord is a fire and health hazard and should be taken out of service or repaired.

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