



IMPROPERLY GROUNDED ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT

It is not uncommon on construction sites to find electrical equipment with broken ground prongs. Without ground prongs, the ground circuit interrupter (GFCI) cannot do its job: transferring fault current to ground. Missing ground prongs can cause:

- Electrical shocks and burns
- Fires or explosions
- Electrocutions

Electrical shock can often lead to other types of injuries, such as:

- Falling from ladders, scaffolds, work platforms and other elevated places
- Being struck by a tool that was dropped when the user was shocked

Before you use electrical equipment, it is important to inspect it for defects such as broken ground prongs, frayed cords, cracked tool casings, etc. If you find defective equipment, mark it with a tag so co-workers don't use it, and remove it from the job site as soon as possible. Remember that only qualified electricians should repair damaged electrical equipment.

Meeting note:

Employee comments/concerns: _____

Other safety issues to be addressed on the job/facility: _____

Training record: Date: _____ Jobsite/Facility: _____
 Trainer: _____ Title: _____

Employee name (print)	/ (signature)	Employee name (print)	/ (signature)
_____	/	_____	/
_____	/	_____	/
_____	/	_____	/

(Continue recording signature on a separate sheet of paper)
 Employee Quiz is provided on last page. Answers are: 1 (d), 2. (b), 3. (d), 4. (a), 5. (a), 6. (b)



IMPROPERLY GROUNDED ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT

Inspect equipment regularly and prior to use. Here are basic safety precautions:

- Look for equipment defects:
 - Missing ground prongs
 - Frayed cords
 - Cracked tool casing

- Always use a GFCI around areas where there is water

- Clean and inspect equipment after use

- Tag defective equipment

- Remove defective equipment from your worksite



TEXAS CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION WORKERS' COMP SAFETY GROUP

Toolbox Talks

A BIWEEKLY HANDY GUIDE FOR YOUR SAFETY MEETINGS

Employee Quiz

Topic: Improperly Grounded Electrical Equipment

Employee Name: _____

Circle the correct answer below.

1. Missing ground prongs can cause:
 - a. Electrolytes
 - b. Electrical shocks
 - c. Electrocutions
 - d. B and C
2. If you find defective equipment, leave it alone and keep it on the job site.
 - a. True
 - b. False
3. When using electrical equipment, it's important to inspect for defects such as:
 - a. Broken ground prongs
 - b. Frayed cords
 - c. Cracked tool casings
 - d. All of the above
4. Any type of person can repair damaged electrical equipment.
 - a. False
 - b. True
5. Always use a GFCI around areas where there is water.
 - a. True
 - b. False
6. GFCI stands for:
 - a. Ground circle interrupter
 - b. Ground circuit interrupter
 - c. Ground circuit contributor
 - d. None of the above

Training record: Date: _____ Jobsite/Facility: _____

Trainer: _____ Title: _____