

Garage Power-Out Plan: Safe & Legal Basics

What to Power (and Skip)

Reasonable essentials:

- Refrigerator or freezer to protect food
- Basic lights so you can see and move safely
- Phones or small devices for communication

Best to avoid:

- High-draw tools or shop equipment
- Space heaters, welders, or heating devices
- Large appliances that are not critical

Transfer Switch Basics and Pro Check

- A transfer switch keeps power from flowing back into utility lines
- Backfeed can damage equipment and put utility workers at risk
- Any permanent setup should be handled by a licensed electrician

Before you rely on any setup:

- Confirm local rules and utility guidance
- Follow manufacturer instructions exactly
- Use official safety resources if you are unsure

Cord and Equipment Safety

- Use cords that are clearly rated for outdoor or heavy use
- Keep cords as short and direct as possible
- Keep cords away from water, fuel, sharp edges, and walk paths

3 things not to do:

- Do not overload outlets or power strips
- Do not pinch cords in doors, windows, or walls
- Do not run equipment in damp or enclosed spaces

Important Reminder

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