Home fires are more deadly and costly than ever. While the number of total fires and fire injuries are decreasing, property damage and fire deaths are on the rise. Each year arc-faults, caused by worn and inadequate wiring, overburdened circuits, outdated technology, and aging electrical systems, start more than 35,000 home fires causing over 1,130 injuries, 500 deaths, and $1.4 billion in property damage.

Common Causes of Arc-Faults

- Damaged electrical wiring
- Wiring damaged by screws or nails
- Wiring damaged by doors
- Damaged electrical insulation
- Overheated cords under carpets or rugs
- Damaged or loose connections
- Cords and plugs damaged by furniture

Arc-fault protection is required in:

- Parlors, libraries, or dens
- Rec rooms
- Bedrooms
- Closets
- Living rooms
- Family rooms
- Kitchens
- Laundry areas

Types of arc-fault protection:

- A listed combination-type AFCI circuit breaker
- A listed outlet branch-circuit-type AFCI receptacle
- A listed outlet branch-circuit-type AFCI receptacle in combination with a listed branch-circuit overcurrent device

AFCI circuit breakers and receptacles protect all downstream wiring and appliances from arc-faults. Receptacles should be installed at the first outlet box of a circuit.

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