

GENERATORS

HOMEOWNER'S GUIDE TO GENERATORS

Choose the Right Generator

- **Portable:** Less expensive, powers a few appliances, must be run outdoors.
- **Standby:** Permanently installed, automatically kicks on, powers whole home.
- Size matters — choose wattage based on what you need (fridge, HVAC, medical devices, etc.).

Safe Installation

- Never plug a generator into a wall outlet (“backfeeding”) — it’s deadly and illegal.
- Always use a transfer switch installed by a licensed electrician.
- Place units at least 20 feet away from the home to avoid carbon monoxide.

Operation & Maintenance

- Use heavy-duty, outdoor-rated extension cords for portable units.
- Store fresh fuel safely — rotate every few months.
- Run your generator monthly to keep it in working condition.
- Schedule annual maintenance for standby systems.

Pro Tips

- Consider a **load-shedding system** to prioritize essential circuits.
- **Ask about surge protection** — generators can send dirty power that harms electronics.
- Install a **dedicated outlet** outside for safer portable generator connections.
- Whole-home standby generators may lower your insurance premiums.

⚠ Safety Check

Call us immediately if you notice:

- Sparks, smoke, or burning smells when your generator is running.
- Breakers tripping when switching to generator power.
- Extension cords or plugs overheating.

Call or Text: (405) 267-7760

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