

Electrical issues in your home can be scary and overwhelming. Which is completely understandable when it comes to something as volatile and vital as electricity in your home. Strada Electric & Security never want you to feel concerned about your safe place. We can help. There are some things that electrical equipment and systems do that make us question the operation of our home. Some of these behaviors only require basic service & repairs. Some can be considered an emergency.

## Outlets not working.

15 Amp Outlet receptacles are found in the living room, bedroom, garage & patio. These outlets are not recommended for vacuums, refrigerators or freezers. 20 Amp Outlets receptacles are found in the dining room, breakfast nook, kitchen, and bathrooms. The kitchen and bathrooms are GFCI protected. These outlets are ideal for items like vacuums and hair dryers with only one outlet in use at a time, per room.

• Check the breaker, reset if tripped \*.

Garage/Exterior Outlets are found outside your home and are protected by a AF/GFCI Breaker.

Problem: No power to outside receptacles

Our Solution: Locate the AF/GFCI device and reset &/or check the breaker, reset if tripped \* Unplug surge protectors, fluorescent lights with electronic ballasts, and lighting controls with LED displays connected to the circuit. This can create load that causes the breaker to trip. Reset the breaker and reconnect items one at a time. If the breaker trips during this process, remove the device.

#### Half of the outlet is not working.

Half-Hot Outlet receptacles have one plug wired to a wall switch to allow the homeowner to light a room when entering. This type of outlet is used when a room is not pre-wired for a ceiling light.

Problem: Only top or bottom of receptacle works

Our Solution: Find the correct switch and turn it on.

## Garage has no power.

Solution: This commonly happens when too much plugged into the garage GFI. Freezers and fridges are the biggest culprit and Christmas lights during the holidays. If it is not plugged in the garage, is there anything plugged in on the porch.: as they are sometimes on the same circuit. unplug items and

try to reset the GFI. If it not resetting, Try turning your breaker off to your garage resetting it & with nothing plugged in try resetting the GFI.

#### Garbage disposal/Dishwasher not working.

Check under the sink; make sure the both are plugged in. Be sure the blades are not jammed.

Push the disposal reset button on the appliance; Disposals operate with a switch be sure you have located the correct switch.

• Check the breaker, reset if tripped. \*

## Lights are dimming.

Is this occurring whenever the AC unit starts up. If yes, advise this is completely normal and no cause for concern. A slightly noticeable dim is ok, it's doing it because when the AC kicks on, it's starting 3 motors at once (compressor, condenser fan, and indoor fan) the inrush current to get these up and going pulls a lot of electricity. Storms can also cause this.

If this happens when you are using an iron, hair dryer or vacuum cleaner in the bedroom, it for the same issue (pulling a lot of electricity). This is also normal and there is no solution to the issue. Recommend the homeowner use a 20amp circuit for these items located in their kitchen, nook, laundry room and bathrooms.

#### Breakers are tripping.

**Breaker trips are not always dangerous.** When your breaker kicks off, what it's doing is protecting your home from an electrical overload or overuse that has been detected.

Does this happen when an item is plugged in or when lights are turned on. If no,

Too many items plugged in can cause a breaker to overload and trip. Bedrooms

and family room are only on a I5 amp circuits. If you have a home office with items like

computers, printers, fax machines and shredders-this is an overload. Even if items are plugged in, but

not on, it is still pulling an electrical draw. We do advise if this happens a lot getting a dedicated circuit to avoid tripping breakers in home offices.

If this is happening when using items like an iron, hair dryer or a vacuum cleaner they are still overloading the circuit. These items pull a lot of electricity. A vacuum itself can pull up to 12 amps. That plugged in with anything else can cause the breaker to trip. Recommend using the 20amp circuits in the home which are in the kitchen, nook, laundry room and bathrooms.

## Half the house is without power.

Have any breakers been tripped. If no, do you have power to your AC, Stove, or dryer. If no, this is more than likely a power company issue known as a dropped LEGG. If yes, please contact your builder for a WO to be sent to us to be processed so we can come to your home.

If you have "lost power" to the majority of the home, make sure the AC or Range/Oven is still on. If neither are working this is most likely a Power Company issue. Call your provider first.

#### Lights not working.

Have you checked your bulbs?

Recess can lights intermittently shut off.

This is commonly due to bulb wattage exceeding specifications. Open bulb recess cans & check lamp wattage, if more than 65watts, please replace with a lower wattage lamp. • Shower/closed bulb recess cans need 40-watt max bulb.

#### Unable to plug anything into an outlet.

We use TRR (Tamper Resistant Receptacles) in our homes per code. They are installed with a shutter behind them to keep children from sticking small objects into them. Push the plug straight in with even pressure applied to both prongs. It cannot be inserted at an angle. Over time the outlets will become easier to use. However, if the outlet is still too difficult to plug into, please contact your builder for them to send a WO for us to process so we can come to your home.

### Smoke detector(s) chirping

Battery failure: replace the battery then hold down the reset button until you hear all the smoke detectors sound the alert. This must be repeated at each smoke detector location in order to ensure each detector is operational. Smoke detectors require periodic cleaning in order to operate correctly. Use a vacuum or broom to clean your smoke detectors.

#### **DUAL FUNCTION (AF/GFCI) BREAKERS**

The innovative Dual Function Circuit Breakers combine two critical, state-of-the-art technologies: Combination Arc Fault and Ground Fault (Class A) Protection in one circuit breaker. Dual Function Circuit Interrupters provide a higher level of protection than any other residential circuit breaker. These devices protect the entire circuit on which they are installed, not just a part of the circuit but a continuation through the receptacle and the wiring in the devices.

#### **Outlets Sparking**

Now this one's a bit harder to define, because it can go either way. If an outlet sparks unprovoked or sparks a lot or for an extended period, it is an emergency. However, the charge that generates a spark always happen when something is turned on or plugged in for the first time. When it happens in this way, it could mean your outlets may need to be replaced.

# When to call for an Emergency

Always remember if you feel at risk, it's could be an emergency. We take safety and security very seriously, so you should too. It's wise to call for emergency service when:

- There are signs of electrical fire.
- Light flickering is prolonged, consistently recurring, or is accompanied by buzzing.
- Outlets show signs of burning, blackening, or melting.
- Breakers are tripping all over the home or refuse to re-engage when operated.
- Outlets are sparking unprovoked or for any amount of extended time.
- You notice burnt wire smells in your home
- Outlets, wires, or appliances generate a mild or moderate electrical shock when touched

An electrical emergency is nothing to play around with. If you're not an experienced electrician, don't try to handle the situation yourself. Not only could the situation become worse, but you could get injured!

In the event of an **Electrical Emergency**, contact us online or call **Strada Electric & Security** at <u>877-906-1113</u> right away. Our 24-hour electricians are ready to respond to any electrical emergency - day or night, weekends & holidays.

Strada Electric & Security is dedicated to bringing excellence to our customers through quality, craftsmanship, and our unparalleled customer service. With locations through-out the state of Florida, we can meet all of your electrical needs, large or small, residential or commercial