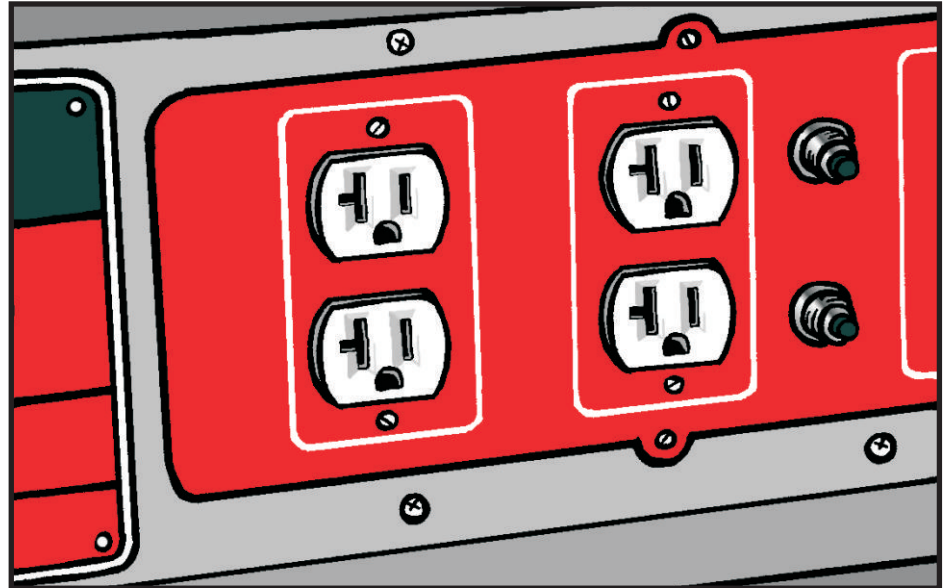


TOOLBOX SAFETY TRAINING

Company _____ Location _____ Date _____

Vol 16 - No 12 PORTABLE GENERATOR ELECTRICAL SAFETY

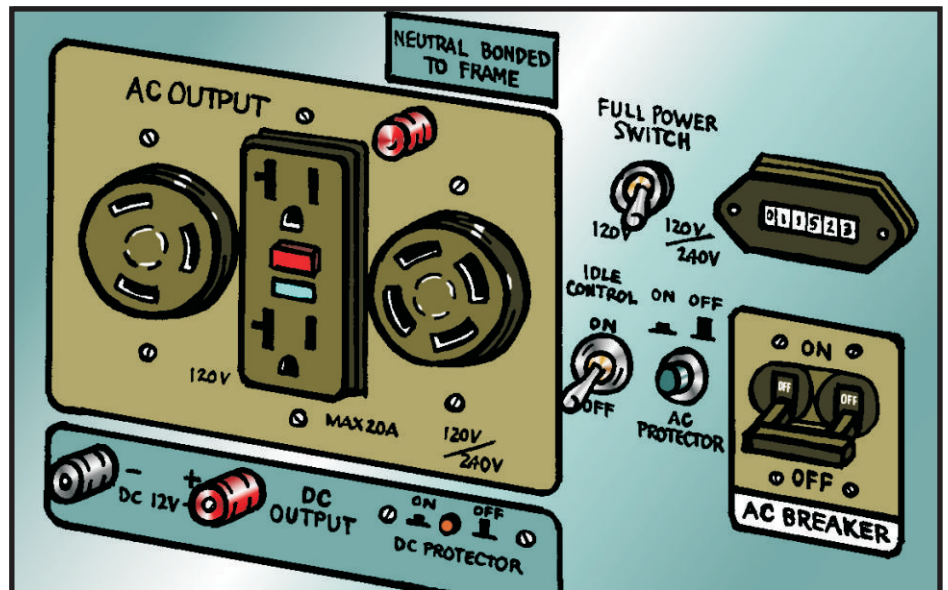
Portable generators are useful when temporary or remote electrical power is needed and are commonly used at the beginning of construction when temporary power has not been installed. When purchased or rented, some generators have GFCI's (Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters) already installed into the outlet while others do not. Keep in mind that OSHA's electrical standard requires the use of an Assured Grounding Conductor Program or simply the use of a GFCI. For those generators that do not have built-in GFCI's, a GFCI "pigtail" shall be plugged in at the source. The picture shows a generator that does not have installed GFCI outlets and would require the protection through the use a GFCI "pigtail."



INCORRECT: No protective GFCI in place

Aside from the use of GFCI's on portable generators, here are a few other considerations when using them.

1. Keep the generator dry. Operate on a dry surface under an open, canopy-like structure.
2. Dry your hands before touching the generator.
3. Plug appliances directly into generator or use a heavy-duty outdoor-rated extension cord. Make sure entire extension cord is free of cuts or tears and the plug has all 3 prongs, especially a grounding pin.
4. NEVER plug the generator into a wall outlet. This practice, known as back feeding, can cause an electrocution risk to utility workers and others served by the same utility transformer.



CORRECT: GFCI in place for power surge protection

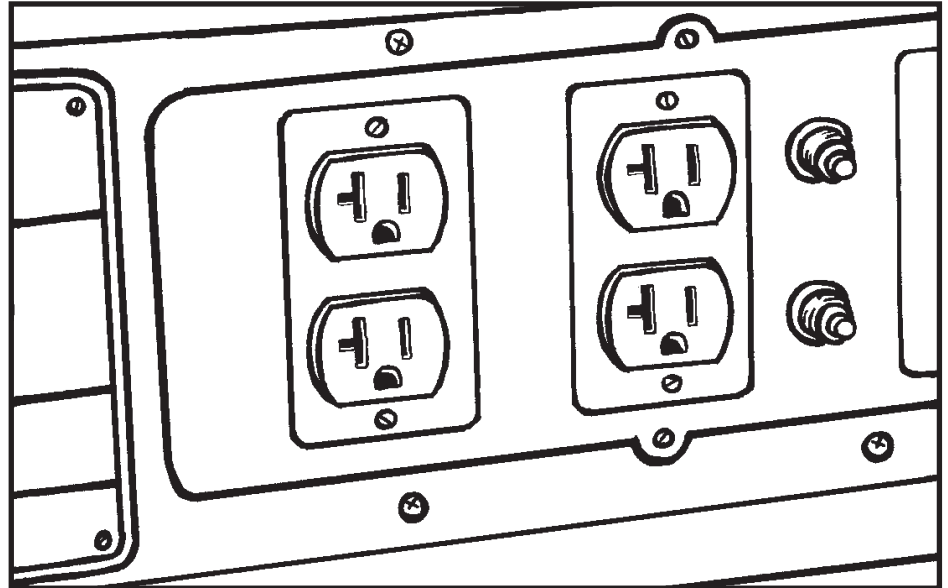
5. If necessary to connect generator to house wiring to power appliances, have a qualified electrician install appropriate equipment. Your utility company may also be able to install an appropriate transfer switch.

TOOLBOX SAFETY TRAINING

Company _____ Location _____ Date _____

Vol 16 - No 12 PORTABLE GENERATOR ELECTRICAL SAFETY

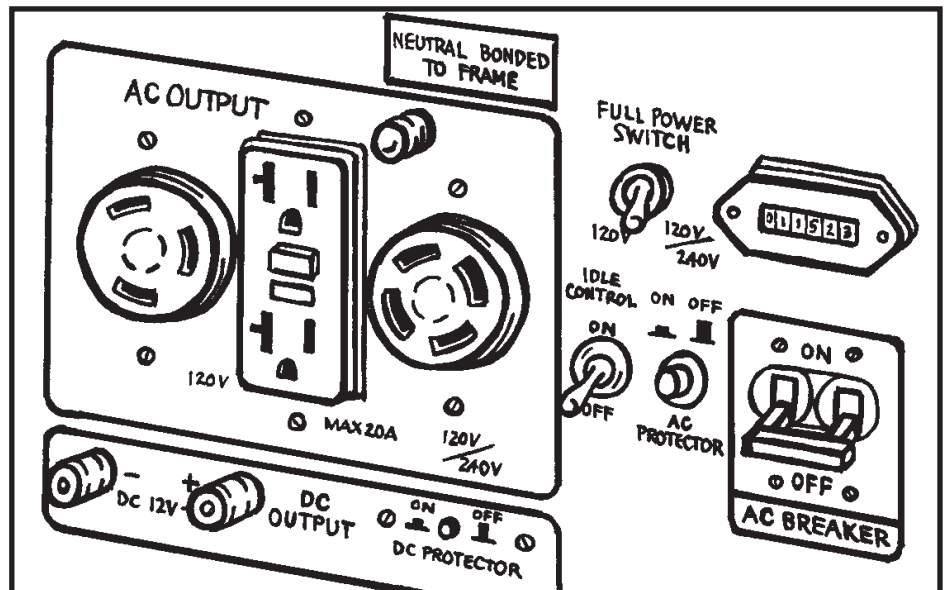
Portable generators are useful when temporary or remote electrical power is needed and are commonly used at the beginning of construction when temporary power has not been installed. When purchased or rented, some generators have GFCI's (Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters) already installed into the outlet while others do not. Keep in mind that OSHA's electrical standard requires the use of an Assured Grounding Conductor Program or simply the use of a GFCI. For those generators that do not have built-in GFCI's, a GFCI "pigtail" shall be plugged in at the source. The picture shows a generator that does not have installed GFCI outlets and would require the protection through the use a GFCI "pigtail."



INCORRECT: No protective GFCI in place

Aside from the use of GFCI's on portable generators, here are a few other considerations when using them.

1. Keep the generator dry. Operate on a dry surface under an open, canopy-like structure.
2. Dry your hands before touching the generator.
3. Plug appliances directly into generator or use a heavy-duty outdoor-rated extension cord. Make sure entire extension cord is free of cuts or tears and the plug has all 3 prongs, especially a grounding pin.
4. NEVER plug the generator into a wall outlet. This practice, known as back feeding, can cause an electrocution risk to utility workers and others served by the same utility transformer.



CORRECT: GFCI in place for power surge protection

5. If necessary to connect generator to house wiring to power appliances, have a qualified electrician install appropriate equipment. Your utility company may also be able to install an appropriate transfer switch.