

Heavy-Duty Extension Cords

DT Workshop Equipment Reference — D&T / STEM resource for school workshops | Electrical & Power



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Heavy-duty extension cords carry power to machines and work areas with thicker cable and higher ratings than domestic cords, with industrial plugs, sockets and strain relief. Correctly rated cords prevent overheating, voltage drop and trip hazards in the workshop.

Key Features

- Cable sizes 1.5-2.5 mm² for heavy loads
- Rated to 10-16 A with earth
- Industrial plugs and sockets
- Lengths from 5 to 25 m
- Cable reels with thermal cut-outs

Typical Uses in the Workshop

- Power machines away from wall sockets
- Reach work areas and outdoor setups
- Run power to demonstration benches
- Distribute power for class events

Safe Operation

1. Check the cord rating matches the load
2. Unroll the full length before heavy use
3. Connect the appliance securely
4. Route the cord clear of walkways and work
5. Unplug after use and coil loosely

SAFETY NOTES

- Never overload - check the appliance wattage
- Do not run cords under mats or doors
- Check plugs and sockets for damage
- Keep cords away from water and heat
- Use RCD protection for all workshop circuits

Maintenance & Consumables

- Inspect the full cord length for damage
- Check plugs and sockets for looseness
- Replace worn cords immediately
- Coil cords loosely to avoid kinks
- Test RCDs and insulation annually

Specification & Buying Notes

Buy 2.5 mm² cords with industrial connectors rated for the machine loads. Reels with thermal cut-outs are safer than loose coils. Buy in the common lengths the workshop layout needs.