

How To Repair A Defective Electrical (Male) Plug

In the course of time, a male electrical plug will become worn from constant use. Ask yourselves, Is there anything that goes in and out of something all the time that won't someday fall apart? At any rate, a faulty plug can shoot off sparks, and worn cord insulation may release enough heat to cause a fire. If you haven't checked your appliance plugs recently, do so immediately. If they are in need of repair, get to it now. Do not be afraid. A plug, once removed from a wall outlet, carries no electrical current.

Utensils

Diagonal cutters
Pocketknife
Wire stripper
Soldering iron
Medium flat blade screwdriver
Long-nosed pliers

Ingredients

Soldering flux (non-acid)
Coil of solder, resin core
2 or 3-pronged heavy-duty plug with fiber cover

Approximate Time: 25 Minutes

1. Cut off defective plug and 2" inches of cord with diagonal cutters.
2. Slit cord insulation (if fabric) with pocketknife and strip back 3" to 4" inches, baring the inner insulation (Fig. 56A). Note: When there is no outer insulation, 1" inch of the plastic or rubber-covered wire should be removed with knife.
3. Remove 1" inch of inner insulation on all wires with wire stripper, taking care not to damage inner strands.
4. Twist loose wire strands tightly together, once bared.
5. Dip bare wire into soldering flux or paste.
6. Heat each wire with soldering iron (Fig. 56B).
7. Apply end of solder coil and let run freely through strands, sealing them.
8. Feed the sealed wires through rear of new male plug (Fig. 56C).
9. Tie underwriter's knot as shown in Figure 56D.

10. Tug insulated portion of wire cord until knot catches in plug.
11. Loosen terminal screws as far as they will go, but do not remove.
12. With long-nosed pliers, form a hook at the end of each wire (Fig. 56E).
13. Wrap hooks tightly around terminals in clockwise direction.
14. Tighten screws over hooks with screwdriver in a clockwise direction, and cut off excess wire with diagonal cutters.
15. If you are working with a 3-pronged plug, hook up the wires as follows: white wire to silver terminal; black wire to brass terminal; green wire to U-shaped terminal.
16. Place fiber cover over prongs (Fig. 56F).
17. Test appliance by plugging into wall outlet.

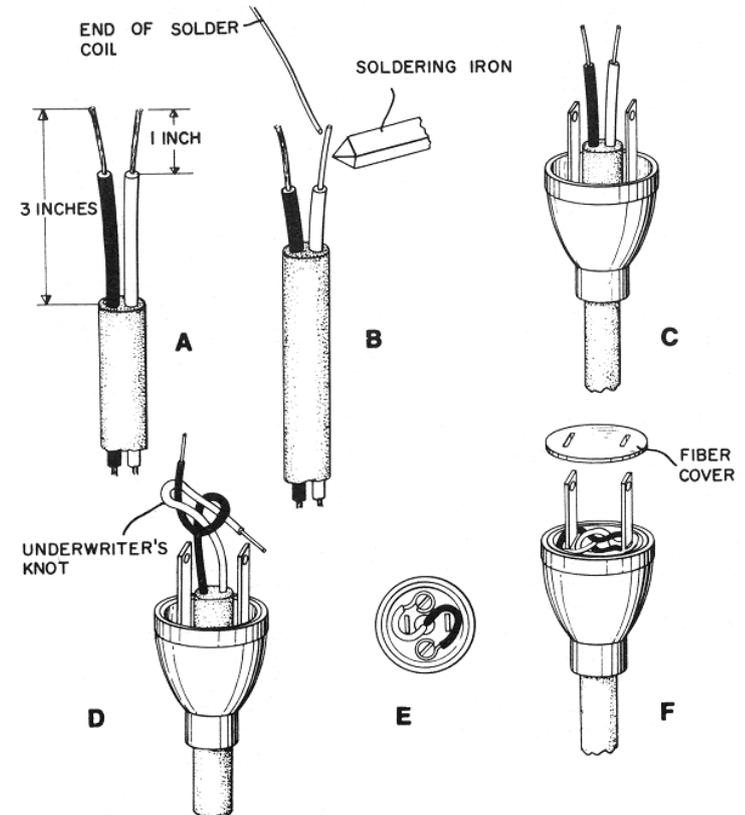


Figure 56.
Repairing a Male Plug