

What to do when your GFCI trips

GFCIs are important safety tools that help protect people from shock or electrocution. Even though the latest models have their own self-test feature, it's still important to test them monthly and perform a visual inspection to be sure they're in good condition.

Your GFCI is designed to trip when it detects a ground fault, which occurs when current flows along an unintended path such as through water or a person.

- Test your GFCIs monthly by pressing the 'TEST' and 'RESET' buttons on the face of the device.
- Perform a simple visual inspection to be sure they're in good condition. If the plug connection is loose or the outlet is discolored or warm, replace the GFCI immediately.

What to Do in the Event of a GFCI Trip

Tripping can happen for a number of reasons.

Perform a Visual Inspection

- Take a look at the GFCI. As with any electrical outlet, if you notice any signs of discoloration or loose plug connection, you'll need to replace it immediately.
- Look at appliances or cords that were plugged into the GFCI at the time of the trip, as well as any devices plugged into outlets downstream of the GFCI. Check for damage like frayed wires or faulty devices.

Take Note: What Was In Use?

- If your outlet appears to be in good condition, take note of what was happening when the GFCI tripped.

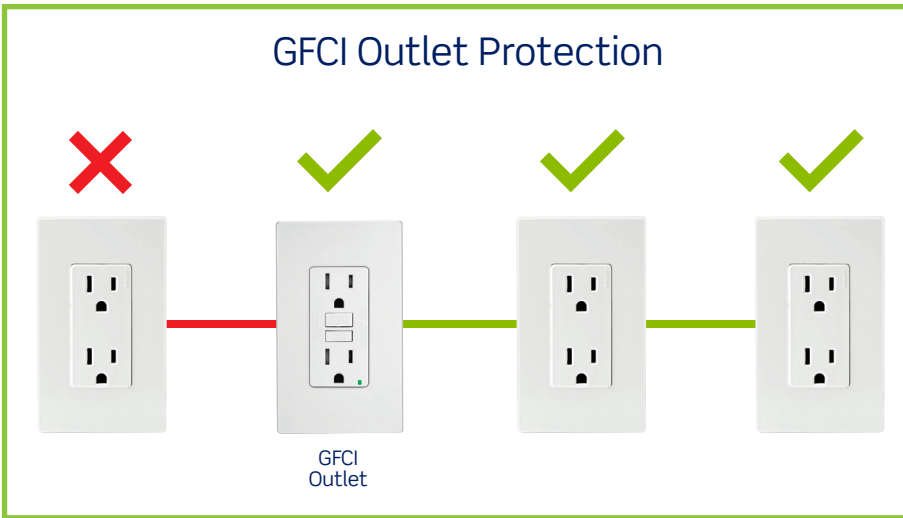
Were you using a specific appliance?

Did you plug something in, or turn something on?

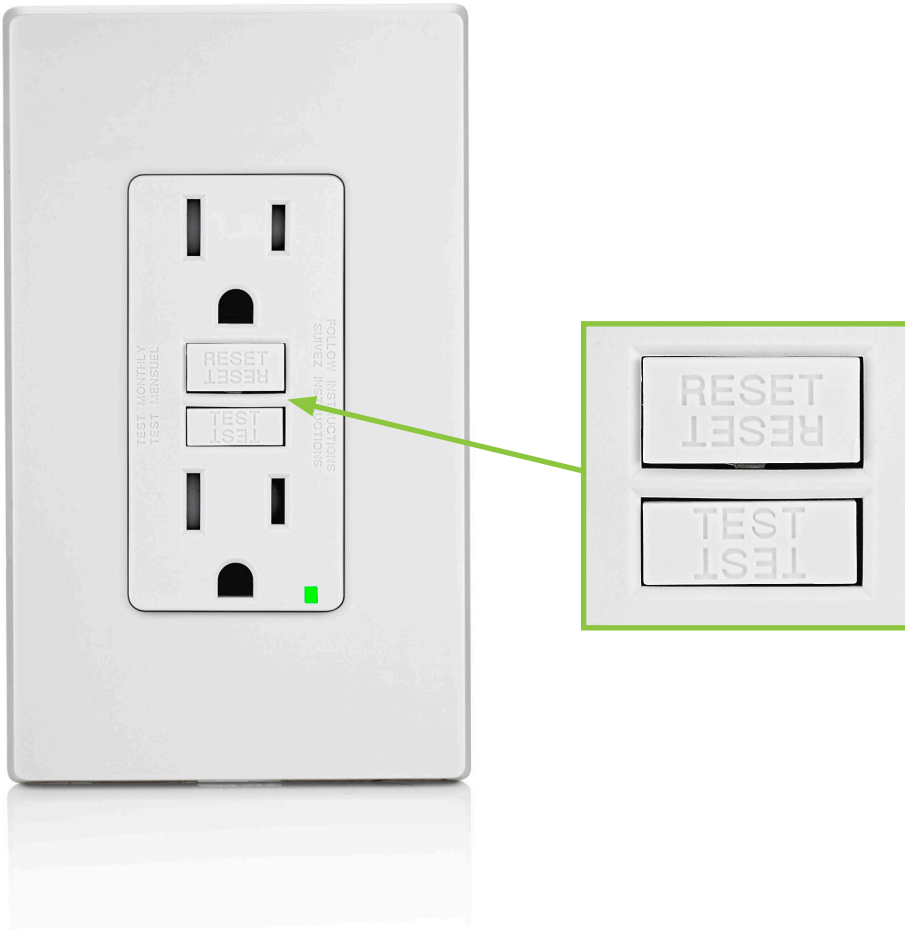
If there's an obvious cause for the trip, you should unplug the device as it may be faulty and causing the GFCI to trip. If the GFCI continues to trip, or if the reason for the trip is not obvious, **it's time to contact an electrician.**



GFCI Outlet Protection



GFCIs protect against ground faults that can occur in the outlet face as well as in outlets wired downstream on the same circuit.



Test your GFCIs monthly by pressing the 'TEST' and 'RESET' buttons on the face of the device.



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