Repair a Heating Appliance Cord

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Simple Home Repairs

Shank, Sandra, "Repair a Heating Appliance Cord" (1900). *Historical Documents of the Purdue Cooperative Extension Service.* Paper 1004. [https://docs.lib.purdue.edu/agext/1004](https://docs.lib.purdue.edu/agext/1004)

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REPAIR A HEATING APPLIANCE CORD

YOUR PROBLEM
- Frayed heating appliance plugs may cause fire or electrical shocks.
- Frayed plugs do not use electricity economically.

WHAT YOU NEED
- Scissors
- Wire cutters
- A screwdriver
- Number 8 sewing thread
- A flat working surface

HOW-TO
1. Disconnect the cord from an electrical outlet.
2. Use the screwdriver to loosen the screws on the plug cover. Or remove the wire "hairpin" clips if your plug has clips instead of screws. Remove the plug cover and wire spring. When you remove the cover, you'll expose several parts. Set these aside in order of removal.
3. Using the wire cutters, cut off the damaged part of the plug cord. Discard the damaged portion.
4. Split the fabric cover 1¼ inches, using the scissors. Remove this outer fabric. On the end of the cord, cut away ⅜ inch of the asbestos covering, leaving bare wires. The asbestos covering should remain in place for the next ⅜ inch. (Fig. 1)

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5. Use Number 8 sewing thread to wrap the asbestos firmly in place. Wind the thread tightly, using a single continuous piece of thread to wrap both wires, as shown.

6. Bring the thread down to the fabric covering, and wrap the covering 8 turns over the raw fabric edge to prevent raveling. Tie a hard knot.

7. Slip the wire spring over the newly threaded cord. Make sure that the end of the spring that fits into the plug is closest to the thread binding.

8. The exposed ¾ inch of bare wire on the end of your cord is composed of several small wires. Twist each group of fine wires together clockwise. Now there should be two twisted wires.

9. Form the thread-covered wires into a “Y” shape. Form small hooks from the bare wires on the end of the cord. Each hook should turn toward the right.

10. Look at both pieces of the plug cover. Notice that one piece is fitted with copper connectors, which contact the prongs on the appliance. At the base of each connector, there is a screw. You had to loosen these screws to remove the old cord.

11. Place the hooks, which you formed in step 9, under the screws at the base of each connector. Tighten the screws securely.

12. Slide the spring up to fit into the base of the plug cover. (Fig. 2)

13. Replace the top half of the plug cover. Tighten the screws, or attach the “hairpin” clips.