

SAFETY TIPS

WHEN USING GENERATORS

Tips to keep you and your family safe during loadshedding

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Location: Place the generator outdoors in a well-ventilated area. Generators emit carbon monoxide (CO), a colourless and odourless gas that can be deadly if inhaled in high concentrations. Never run a generator indoors, including inside garages or basements, or near open windows, doors, or vents.

Distance: Keep the generator at least three metres away from your home or any other structures. This reduces the risk of CO entering the building and minimises the chance of fire hazards.



Grounding: Properly ground the generator according to the manufacturer's instructions. This helps prevent electrical shocks and ensures the safe operation of the equipment.

Fuel storage: Store fuel (such as gasoline or diesel) in approved containers in a safe location away from the generator. Keep the fuel away from any open flames or potential ignition sources. Do not try to refill the generator with fuel or oil while it is running.

Electrical connections: If you are connecting the generator to your home's electrical system, use a transfer switch installed by a licensed electrician. This prevents back-feeding electricity into the utility lines, which can endanger utility workers trying to restore power.



Cords and cables: Inspect all cords and cables for damage before connecting them to the generator. Ensure they are rated for the appropriate wattage and length, and use grounded extension cords when necessary.

Load management: Avoid overloading the generator. Determine your power requirements and prioritise essential appliances and equipment. Overloading can damage the generator and connected devices and create a safety risk.



Fire safety: Keep a fire extinguisher nearby and ensure everyone in your household knows how to use it. Additionally, have working smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors installed in your home.

