

Do You Have A Dead Outlet In Your Home? Here's What To Do!

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It's never a good time to turn on an appliance or device and find that there's no electricity coming from the outlet. That's frustrating and more than a little annoying. Now you have to go get power at some other outlet for the item you need to use. Plus, you'll have to investigate the problem with the apparently dead outlet.

Here's some information from DK Electrical Solutions to help you with dead electrical outlet troubleshooting:

What To Do If You Think You May Have A Dead Outlet

Start by making sure there are not any dangerous conditions that require urgent attention by a professional electrician. Do this by checking for signs of serious electrical problems:

- Does the outlet or cover look melted or burned?
- Is there discoloration (black, brown, or yellow) on the outlet or cover?
- Is there an unusual odor in the room?
- Does the outlet spark as you plug something into it?
- Are other electrical devices or appliances nearby working?
- Are there multiple outlets not working?

If any of the above is happening in your home, the outlet is dead and may affect other electrical wiring and appliances, and may even cause a house fire. So, shut off the power to the outlet at the breaker box immediately, if you can do so safely, and call an electrician.

Determine the Problem Is Really the Outlet

Next, isolate the actual cause of the problem that is preventing you from using the electrical item at the outlet:

- **Plug a different item into the outlet.** If it works, then the problem is with the previous electrical device you plugged in, and not with the outlet.
- **Check the breaker panel.** When a breaker trips, it shuts off power to outlets and lights on that individual electrical circuit. If the outlet you're trying to use is dedicated, such as those going to your individual kitchen appliances might be, check your electrical panel and reset the breaker for that item, if needed.

Check Your Home for a Tripped GFCI

Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter outlets are commonly used in bathrooms, kitchens, laundry rooms, and other areas where water is used in and around homes. A GFCI is designed to trip the circuit that supplies the outlet if there's a problem. When it trips, it shuts down power to all the outlets, lights, etc., that are supplied by the same circuit. Check the GFCI that may be affecting the outlet you want to use and reset it if needed.

When It's Time To Call a Licensed Electrician

If you have completed the dead outlet troubleshooting steps above, but still have not identified the problem with the outlet and the solution to it, the outlet wiring is probably the cause. That requires a licensed and certified electrician. Our DK master electricians bring all the knowledge and experience needed to provide a top-quality solution safely and quickly.

For Outlet Replacement, Contact DK Electrical Solutions

DK master electricians are licensed, bonded, and insured. Help is available to you 24 hours for emergency needs. All pricing is upfront — no surprise billing, ever. For electrical repairs, call DK Electrical Solutions Inc at (609) 604-5298, or use our online contact request for information or to schedule electrical services at your home.