SHARP START

DECEMBER 18 — Shock Risk Identified

Came across an electrical cord that when unplugged from receptacle the ground prong was broke off leaving the cord electronically unsafe.	**Removed broken prong from receptacle and throw broken cord away.**

A power cord lay with its ground prong snapped clean off. It is an easy miss when fatigue dulls your eyes and memory slips erase tiny red flags. But electricity doesn't care about intentions. One bad connection can send current someplace it never belonged: through you.

A cord that's cracked or prongs that snap,
Can shock your hand with just one tap.
Check it first before you begin
A quick look keeps the danger thin

Running a tool without a ground prong is like jacking up your truck without the jack stand.
Sure, it'll hold… right up until the exact moment it doesn't.
And when it fails, it fails **fast**, **hard**, and **without warning**.

That ground prong *is* your jack stand — the only thing meant to take the hit *for you.*

Hazards

- Electric shock
- Electrocution
- Burns
- Tool malfunction
- Fire hazard

Stats

- Ground prong = #1 electrical defect reported
- Ungrounded tools increase shock risk **300%**
- 1,900+ electrical injury hospitalizations yearly

Words of Wisdom

- If the ground is missing, the tool is out of service.
- Three prongs or it belongs in the bin.

Pause and Think

Fatigue makes you less alert and more likely to skip small but important steps—like checking electrical cords. When you're tired, your brain defaults to "just get it done," which means frayed insulation, cracked plugs, or missing grounds go unnoticed. Fatigue lowers attention and motivation, leading to fewer inspections and higher risk.

- What's the most common electrical issue you spot on tools?
- Why do damaged cords get ignored so often?
- What part of power-tool inspection do we need to strengthen?