SHARP START

January 28 — Damage & Shock Hazard

Walking through doorway I noticed 2 electrical cords running out of the door on the ground being pinched by the door.	**I went and found a smaller chunk of channel to cover cords and used it for a door prop no one was in the area.**

A cord through a door may look just fine,
Till the door shuts hard on that rubber line.
Route it safe, don't let it bend,
So shocks and sparks don't find their end.

At first glance, the cords looked like a simple routing choice. The problem is the door becomes a moving clamp. Every time it opens or closes, pressure is applied to the cord jacket and internal conductors. That damage isn't always visible, but it accumulates. Eventually insulation fails, conductors are exposed, or the cord overheats — and by then the hazard has already been built in.

This is how electrical hazards get created quietly over time.

Hazards

- Damage to cord insulation and internal conductors
- Electrical shock from exposed wiring
- Fire risk from overheating or shorting
- Trip hazards from cords across walkways
- Equipment failure from damaged power supply

Stats

- Mechanical damage is a leading cause of extension cord failures
- Damaged cords are a frequent contributor to electrical shock and fire incidents
- Many electrical incidents stem from **gradual degradation**, not sudden failure
- Pinch points significantly accelerate cord wear and insulation breakdown

Words of Wisdom

- Electricity doesn't forgive damage it remembers it.
- If it's getting pinched, it's getting worse.

Pause and Think

Cords are flexible, so people treat them like they can go anywhere. But flexible doesn't mean durable. Doors, hinges, and frames apply repeated pressure in the same spot, slowly destroying insulation and conductors. The danger isn't the first close it's the fiftieth.

- Where do cords cross moving parts or pinch points?
- What protects the cord when something closes on it?
- How do we route power so damage can't happen?