



Weekly Safety Tip

**Should You Unplug
Chargers When Not in
Use?**

Chargers are essential for everyday devices, but is it safe to leave them plugged in when not in use?



Key Takeaways

Idle chargers consume energy even when not in use, resulting in higher bills and wasted power over time.

Leaving chargers plugged in increases fire risks and shortens charger lifespan due to overheating and voltage exposure.

Simple habits and tools (see below) can help automate the simple practice of unplugging your chargers.

It is recommend that you unplugging chargers when you are not actively using them.

In the average household, a wide variety of wireless devices require chargers, including phones, tablets, laptops, headphones, keyboards, speakers, and other electronic devices. Depending on the device and your usage habits, it might require daily charging, which means plugging in and unplugging both the charger and the device frequently. However, while this might seem harmless, it can result in adverse consequences.

Because so many of us leave our chargers plugged in simply out of habit, we need to counteract that by finding ways to create new habits.

To develop 'safer' habits, you may wish to consider the following **Six Safety Tips**:

1. **Create a charging station.** Find a spot to keep the bulk of your chargers, so you only need to remember to unplug one; this way, you'll remember to unplug all of them.
2. **Choose energy-efficient chargers and devices.** This will minimize passive energy consumption in case you forget to unplug the charger.
3. **Educate other members of the household.** This way, you won't constantly have to unplug chargers while everyone else continues to plug them in and leave them there.
4. **Group chargers with power strips.** Plug multiple chargers into a single power strip that can be turned off when you are done charging the devices or when you leave the area.
5. **Make unplugging chargers a part of your daily routine.** When you go through the usual steps to go to work or to bed, include unplugging chargers as a necessary part of the process.
6. **Invest in smart plugs, smart power strips, or timers.** These items can be programmed to turn off or set to operate for specific time intervals before automatically shutting off. This will help ensure that even if you forget to unplug the chargers, they will not be drawing electricity while not in use.

TIPs Source: Better Homes & Gardens article by Tim Dale, August 2025

Dave Varwig for SCNWO

Weekly Safety Share



Management System Standard Comparison



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Management System Standard Comparison: Incident Investigation and Corrective Action

Table 1 compares ANSI/ASSE with international standards and other guidelines.

The matrix is intended to demonstrate the significant similarity in essential elements of management systems and assist organizations in integrating management systems during implementation.

Element-by-element comparison is difficult and subject to interpretation.

Table 1 Management System Standard Comparison¹

ANSI Z10 2019	OHSAS 18001-2007	ISO 45001 2018 ²	IL0 2001	ISO 14001 2015 ²	OSHA Recommended Practices 2016
9.2 Incident Investigation	4.5.3 Incident investigation, nonconformity, corrective action, and preventive action (title only) 4.5.3.1 Incident investigation	10.2 Incident, nonconformity and corrective action	3.12 Investigation of worker-related injuries, ill health, disease, and incidents and their impact on safety and health performance	10.2 Nonconformity and corrective action	Hazard Identification and Assessment: Action Item 4
9.4 Corrective Action	4.5.3.2 Nonconformity, corrective action, and preventive action	10.2 Incident, nonconformity, and corrective action	3.15 Preventive and corrective action	10.2 Nonconformity and corrective action	Program Evaluation and Improvement: Action Item 3

Notes:

- 1 This table is provided as comparison of broad elements of common and related management systems used for Occupational Health & Safety. It is not intended to provide a detailed comparison of specific requirements. In some cases, while there is no entry (dashed line) on a particular element, such requirements may be found stated in other sections of the management system standard of interest.

²A comparison to ISO 9001 on Quality which is sometimes used as a framework for an Occupational Health & Safety Management System is not included in this table. However, all ISO management system standards such as ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 on an environmental management system, as well as ISO 45001, must use a common framework known as Annex SL. Users wishing to combine Quality with Occupational Health & Safety will find that the major non discipline-specific management system elements between these ISO standards are similar.

Source document: [ASSP GM-Z10.100-2019 Guidance and Implementation Manual for ANSI/ASSP Z10.0-2019 Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems](#) includes the above in a 7-page detailed chart that compares the different standards and guidance documents.

DA Varwig for SCNWO



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